

BLUE RIBBON



COMICS

MYSTERY



NO.22 ACTION! MYSTERY! THRILLS!

MARCH

10¢



[illegible]

Most Amazing Sight

you ever saw!

WORLDS DESTROYED

BEFORE YOUR EYES—
as you look through the
RADIUMSCOPE!



IF YOU want to see a most awe-inspiring sight, view the actual destruction of thousands of worlds by simply looking through the lens of the new RADIUMSCOPE. See RADIUM DISINTEGRATED and DESTROYED RIGHT BEFORE YOUR EYES. Witness a real atomic bombardment — a never-to-be-forgotten sight! You plainly see radium rays and the discharge and bombardment of the Alpha particles. There is no more remarkable and awe-inspiring spectacle in the whole world than what you can see in this marvelous RADIUMSCOPE.

The RADIUMSCOPE is without a doubt one of the most amazing scientific wonders ever invented. For ages scientists thought that atoms were indestructible. Yet the RADIUMSCOPE shows plainly that radium actually destroys atoms, (atoms are miniature worlds). Look into the RADIUMSCOPE and behold the most astonishing sight. You see a brilliant "night sky", alive with thousands of "stars" and myriads of bright flashes similar to showers of shooting stars. Every flash is the result of the destruction of one atom of radium. As each radium atom is destroyed, it creates a Helium gas atom which it shoots out like a bullet at the terrific speed of

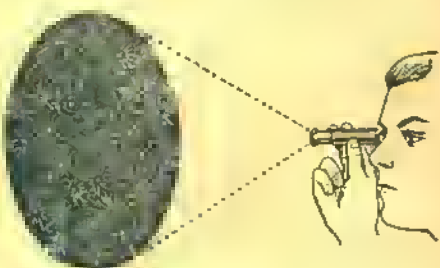
10,000 miles a second. These fast-traveling Helium atoms (also called Alpha rays) make a vivid flash of light when they strike a zinc sulphite crystal, inside the RADIUMSCOPE. A strong magnifying lens makes these flashes visible and you actually see the never-ending motion of the tiniest particles of matter known to science. The bombardment keeps on going not only for a few days, but for over 1,800 years, never stopping. Thus, the Radium in the RADIUMSCOPE, if preserved, will outlive you and many succeeding generations.

Our RADIUMSCOPE actually contains a small quantity of real radium.

There is nothing to replace, nothing extra to buy. The instrument will last indefinitely. It can be adjusted to anyone's eyesight by means of a clever telescopic adjustment.

The RADIUMSCOPE is also a wonderful night-guile, IT GLOWS WITH A WEIRD LIGHT IN A DARK ROOM.

Place it on the night table or anywhere else in your room; then when you get up at night you won't bump into furniture in the room.



This only gives a faint idea what you see. A picture can't show motion nor the real bombardment that you see inside the RADIUMSCOPE. It's a marvelous sight!



This is how the RADIUMSCOPE looks. Metal, nickel-plated telescope case. Handy and easy to focus to any eyesight. Carry it in your pocket.

MAIL COUPON NOW—TODAY

M. L. J. MAGAZINES, INC.,
160 W BROADWAY, NEW YORK, N. Y.

Please rush to me quickly your new RADIUMSCOPE, as described above.

I enclose 50c in coin, money order, or new U. S. stamps.

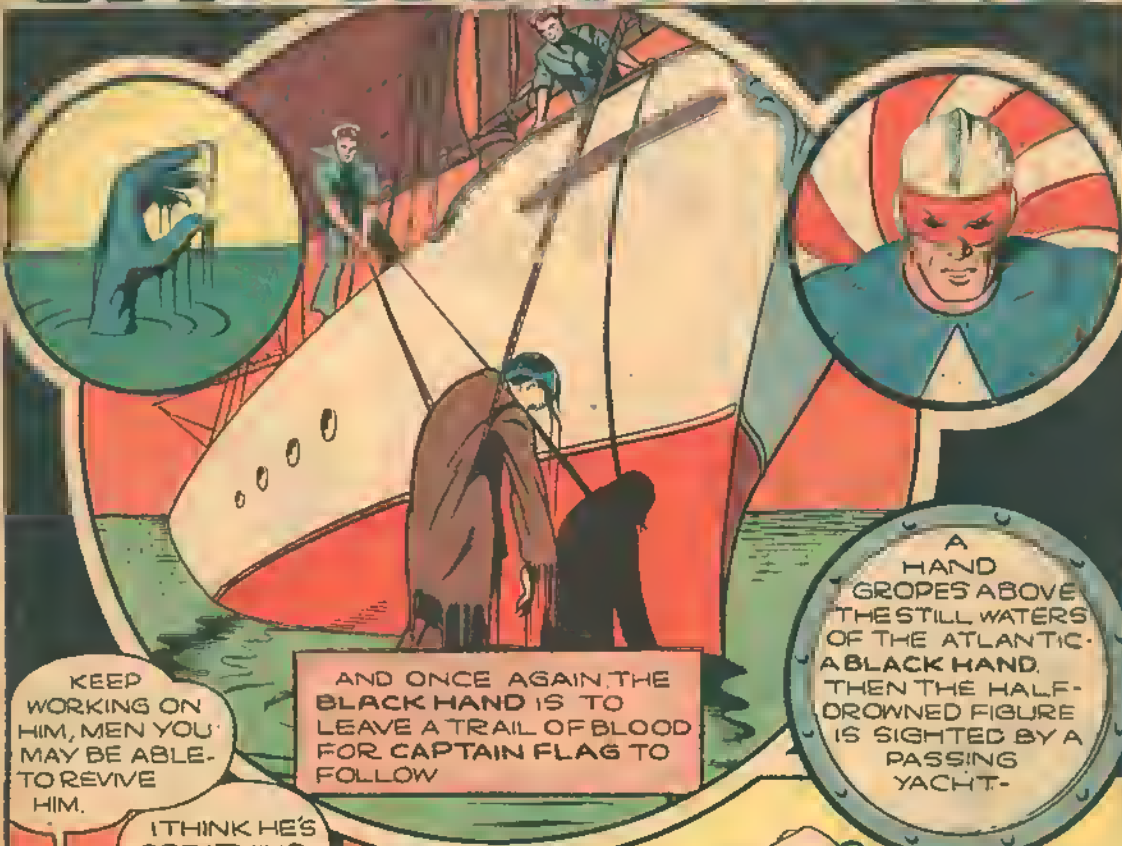
NAME
(print clearly)

ADDRESS

CITY STATE

(For Canada And Foreign Countries Add 5c Extra)

CAPTAIN FLAG



KEEP
WORKING ON
HIM, MEN YOU
MAY BE ABLE-
TO REVIVE
HIM.

AND ONCE AGAIN, THE
BLACK HAND IS TO
LEAVE A TRAIL OF BLOOD
FOR CAPTAIN FLAG TO
FOLLOW

IT THINK HE'S
BREATHING
NOW.

HE CERTAINLY
IS AN UGLY LOOK-
ING DEVIL.

GIVES ME
THE CREEPS TO
LOOK AT HIM, SIR.

DAYS
LATER

THERE'S A
WHALE OF A
STORM BLOW-
ING UP.

I'D BETTER
SEE HOW THE
POOR DEVIL IS,
BEFORE THE
STORM BEGINS.

SEEMS TO BE
SOMETHING THE
MATTER WITH
HIS HAND.

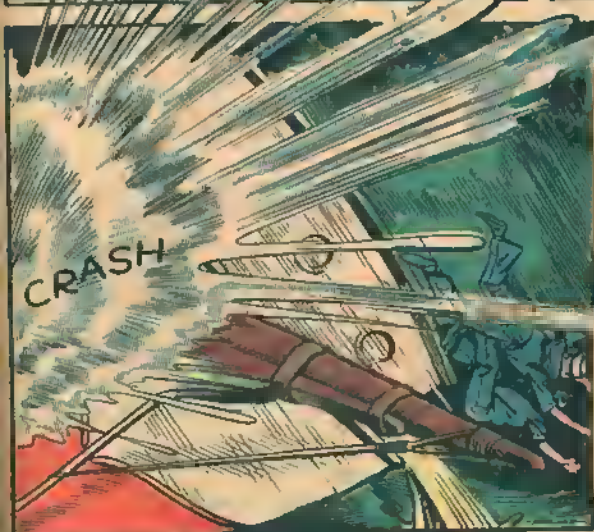
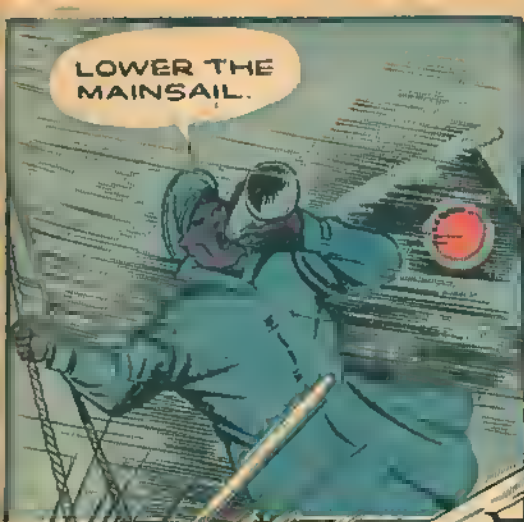
WHY, THIS
IS THE BLACK
HAND!

EXACTLY-HA-HA!
AND HERE'S
HOW IT FEELS
ON YOUR
THROAT!

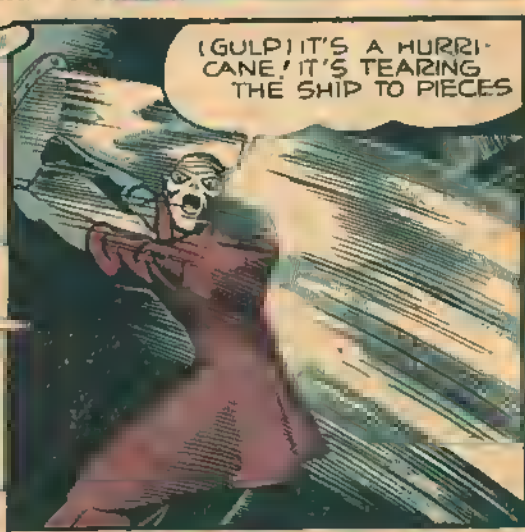
I'D BETTER
DISPOSE OF
HIM BEFORE
SOMEBODY
COMES IN.

SUDDENLY A STORM
BREAKS WITH TER-
RIFIC FURY AND
THE SHIP PITCHES
VIOLENTLY.

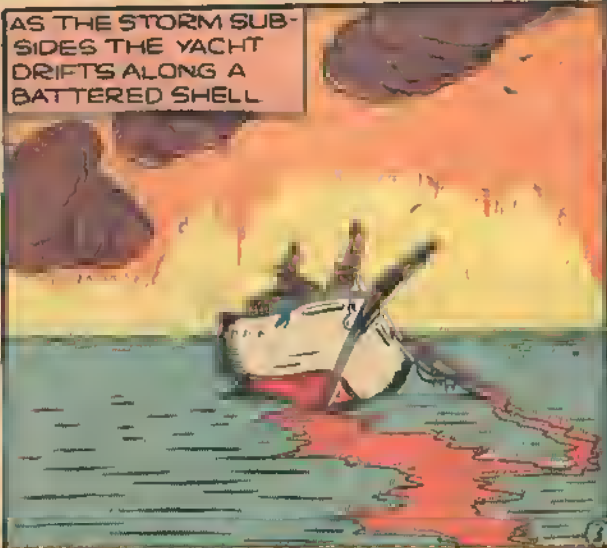
LOWER THE
MAINSAIL.



(GULP) IT'S A HURRI-
CANE! IT'S TEARING
THE SHIP TO PIECES



AS THE STORM SUB-
SIDES THE YACHT
DRIFTS ALONG A
BATTERED SHELL



AND AS THOUGH PROTECTED BY THE FORCES OF EVIL ITSELF, THE ONLY STIRRING FIGURE ABOARD THE SHIP IS THE BLACK HAND-



ALL DEAD... AND THIS SHIP, WHAT'S LEFT OF IT IS MINE - ALL MINE!



FIRST TO GET RID OF THESE CORPSES!

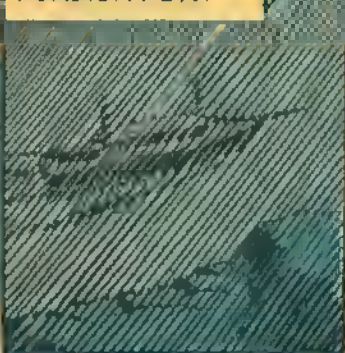


WHAT AN OPPORTUNITY FOR PIRACY AND LOOT... A MILLIONAIRE'S YACHT COULD GET CLOSE ENOUGH TO ITS PREY WITHOUT BEING SUSPECTED!

HMM. THE ENGINE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE WATER-SOAKED. NOW TO GET IT RUNNING LONG ENOUGH TO REACH SOME PORT ANYWAY!



ONE WEEK LATER - AND THROUGH THE SHROUDS OF FOG AND RAIN A GHOST VESSEL LIMPS UNSEEN INTO A FOREIGN PORT --



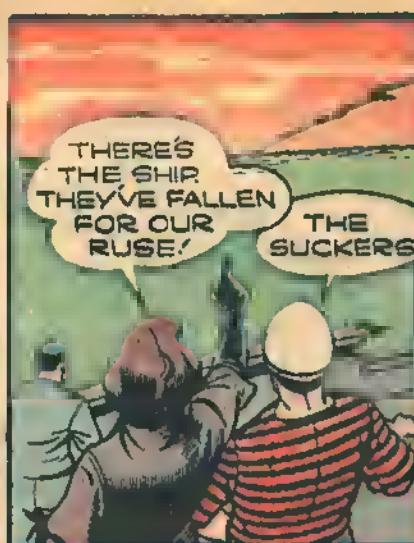
THE BLACK HAND ROUNDS UP A CREW OF CUT-THROATS AND THIEVES - THE SCUM OF THE WATER FRONT ---



THE YACHT IS MADE SEA-WORTHY AGAIN. CANNON ARE MOUNTED BELOW DECKS --



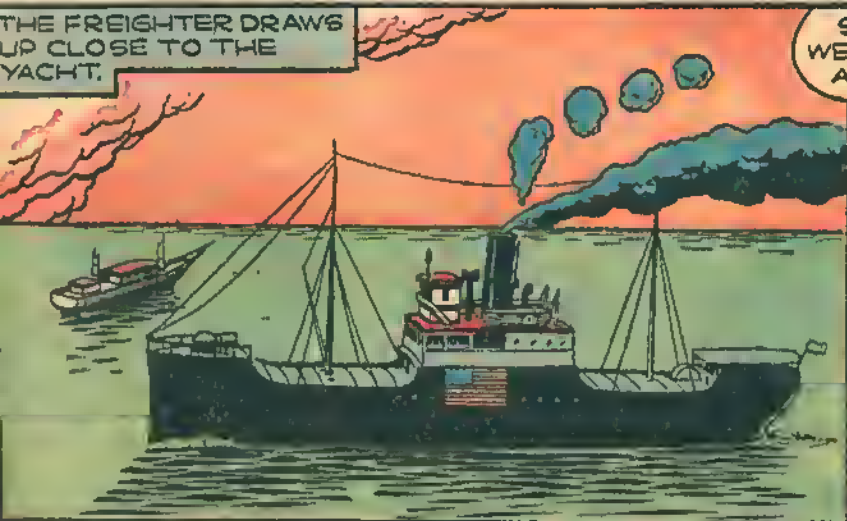
THE FIRST VICTIM OF
THE BLACK HAND.



NOW THEY'LL
MEET A PIRATE
WHO'LL MAKE
CAPTAIN KIDD
LOOK LIKE A
ROVER
BOY.



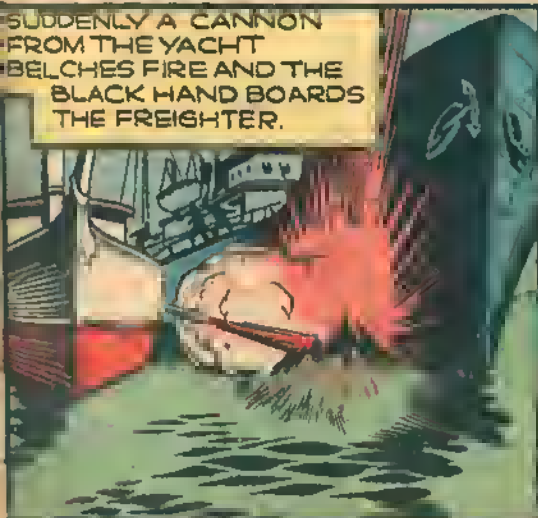
THE FREIGHTER DRAWS
UP CLOSE TO THE
YACHT.



SEEMS DESERTED-
WE'LL COME ABOUT
AND BOARD'ER.
STAND BY.



SUDDENLY A CANNON
FROM THE YACHT
BELCHES FIRE AND THE
BLACK HAND BOARDS
THE FREIGHTER.



THERE'LL BE
VERY LITTLE
FIGHT LEFT
IN YOU
SOON.



HURRY MEN-GET
THE CARGO OFF
HER BEFORE
SHE SINKS.



TRAPPED BY THE BLACK
HAND. SHIP AFTER SHIP
MEETS ITS DOOM.



DAILY REPORTER
EXTRA
4TH U.S. SHIP DIST
BY NAZIS

NOW CAPTAIN
FLAG READS OF
THE DISASTERS.



MILLIONAIRE YACHTS-
MAN JOHN BARTON'S
BODY WASHED UP ON
BEACH. BARTON IS
THOUGHT TO BE A
VICTIM OF ONE OF THE
NAZI RAIDERS WHICH
LATELY HAVE BEEN
INFESTING THE
AMERICAN WATERS
AND SINKING OUR
SHIPS.
A PECULIAR FEAT-
URE WAS THE COLOR
OF BARTON'S FACE-
A MURDEROUS BLACK

BLACK FACE ON CORPSE!-
GOOD LORD! IT CAN'T BE
THE BLACK HAND! I SAW
HIM DROWN!---AND YET---
I THINK I'LL LOOK FOR A
JOB ON A FREIGHTER.



WELL, I'VE
GOT THE JOB.
NOW TO SEE
WHAT HAPPENS
ON THIS
TRIP.



FROM THE DECK OF CAP-
TAIN FLAG'S SHIP
LOOKS LIKE A
DERELICT SHIP.



THERE'S A
FREIGHTER JUST
WAITING FOR US.
MAN THE
GUNS!



ON THE FREIGHTER!

AHOY THERE,
ANYBODY ABOARD?



AND ON THE YACHT

I'LL GIVE
IT TO HER
NOW!



BEFORE THE PI-
RATES BOARD
THE SHIP, A LONE
SAILOR DUCKS IN-
TO A CABIN SOON
TO EMERGE AS
CAPTAIN FLAG.



WIPE THEM
OUT MEN!



OUT OF MY
WAY YOU
LUBBER



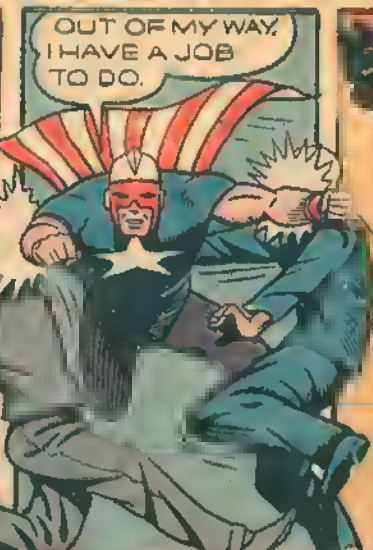
YOU
PIRATE
SCUM!



THIS'LL MAKE YOU
WISH YOU'D NEVER
GONE TO SEA.



OUT OF MY WAY,
I HAVE A JOB
TO DO.

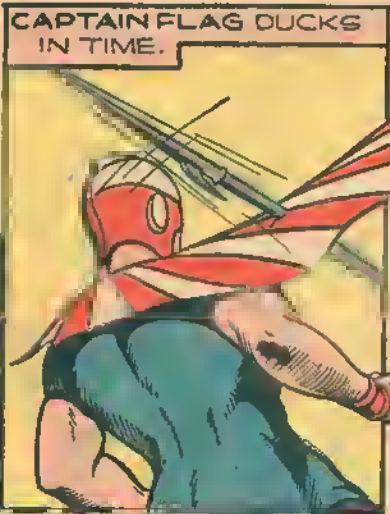


THE BLACK
HAND
HURLS A
MARLIN
SPIKE AT
CAPTAIN
FLAG.

CAPTAIN
FLAG
I'LL GET
HIM THIS
TIME!



CAPTAIN FLAG DUCKS
IN TIME.



THE BLACK HAND,
SO YOU AREN'T DEAD
AFTER ALL!



WELL YOU'LL
SOON WISH
YOU WERE!



NOW I'LL FINISH
YOU CAP-
TAIN
FLAG



PUT HIM IN IRONS!
I HAVE A SPECIAL
TREAT IN STORE FOR
HIM!





I MUST GET
OUT OR
THE WHOLE
CREW IS
DOOMED.



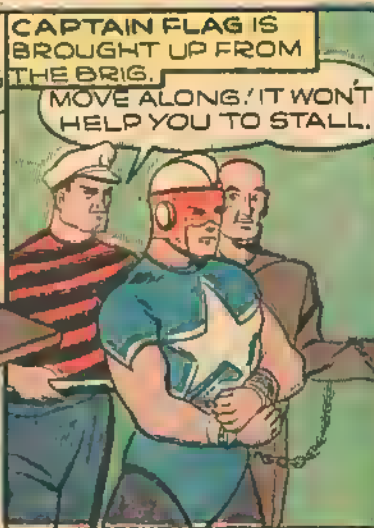
TIE THE
FREIGHTER'S
CREW TO
THE MASTS



THIS'LL
TEACH YER
NOT TO
OPEN YER
TRAP
AGAIN.



ALL RIGHT MEN! NOW
NAIL DOWN THAT GANG
PLANK, AND THEN BRING
FLAG UP!



CAPTAIN FLAG IS
BROUGHT UP FROM
THE BRIG.

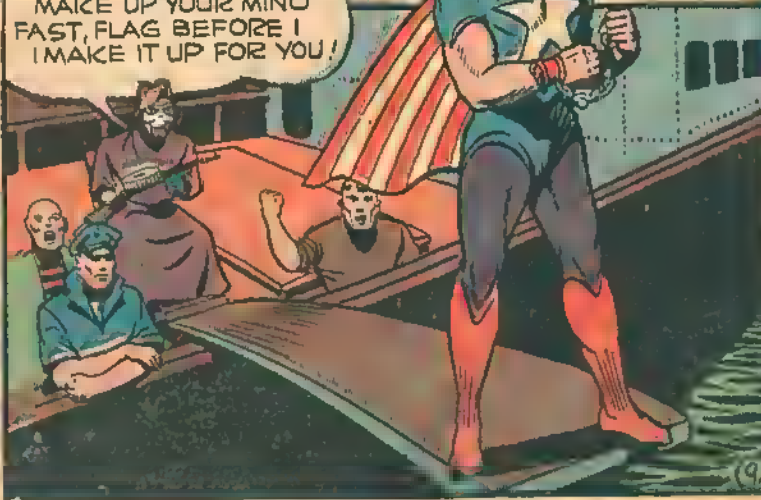
MOVE ALONG! IT WON'T
HELP YOU TO STALL.



I HAVE A VERY
PLEASANT DEATH
PREPARED FOR YOU,
CAPTAIN FLAG. YOU'RE
GOING TO WALK THE
PLANK!

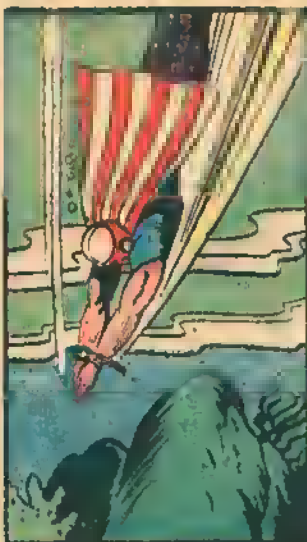


OR PERHAPS YOU'D
PREFER ME TOO SHOOT
OFF YOUR LEGS AND
ARMS--- THEN FEED
YOU TO THE FISH.



MAKE UP YOUR MIND
FAST, FLAG BEFORE I
MAKE IT UP FOR YOU!

CAPTAIN FLAG
TAKES A DEEP
DIVE



FORTUNATELY THE SHIPS
ARE IN SHALLOW WATERS
AND AT THE BOTTOM HE
IS ABLE TO SMASH HIS
CHAINS ON A JAGGED
ROCK



I'LL COME UP
ON THE OTHER
SIDE OF OF THE
SHIP



ABANDON THE
SHIP NOW MEN SHE'LL
BLOW UP IN A FEW
MINUTES



A CRY FOR
HELP SEEMS
TO BE COMING
FROM THE
HOLD.

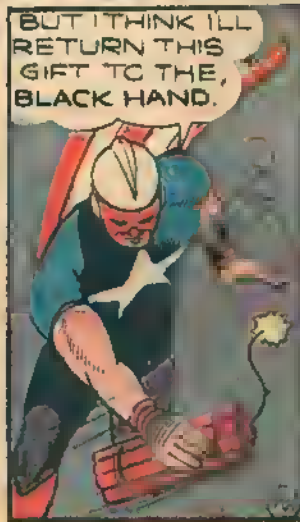


CAPTAIN!
THEY LEFT
YOU HERE!

DON'T
MIND ME.
THERE'S
DYNAMITE WITH
A LIGHTED FUSE
IN THAT COR-
NER



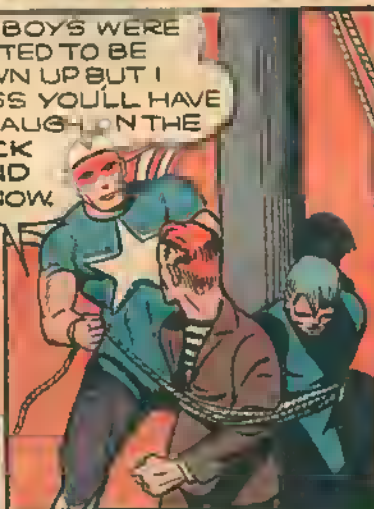
THIS WOULD
BLOW US ALL TO
KINGDOM COME



BUT I THINK I'LL
RETURN THIS
GIFT TO THE,
BLACK HAND.



YOU BOYS WERE SLATED TO BE BLOWN UP BUT I GUESS YOU'LL HAVE THE LAUGH ON THE BLACK HAND NOW.




WHAT ADVENTURES AWAIT CAPTAIN FLAG NOW? WATCH FOR HIM IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF BLUE RIBBON COMICS.


RANG-A-TANG

THE WONDER DOG... AND

Richy the AMAZING BOY

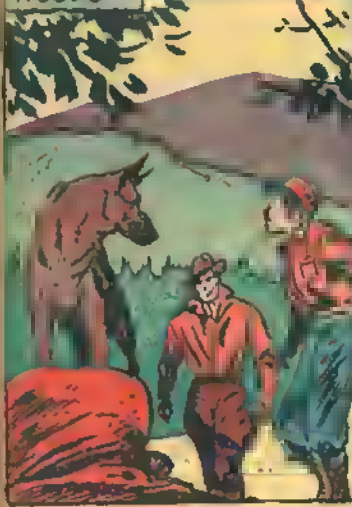


A LONE TRAPPER BENDS OVER HIS TRAPS IN THE PEACEFULLY QUIET AND TRANQUIL NORTH WOODS, SUDDENLY A HULKING FIGURE STEPS FROM BEHIND A TREE! A RAZOR SHARP AXE FLASHES BRIEFLY IN THE SUNLIGHT AND DEATH MAKES HIS UNWELCOME APPEARANCE, WITHOUT EVEN DISTURBING THE GRIM SILENCE -



WITH THIS PUNK OUT OF THE WAY ALL THE TRAPPING DONE IN THIS NECK OF THE WOODS WILL BE DONE BY ME, NOW!

THE NEXT DAY, THE VACATIONING RANG-A-TANG, HY SPEED AND RICHVARE WALKING THROUGH THE WOODS -



WHEN SUDDENLY -



WHY, IT LOOKS LIKE A BODY!

LOOK AT THAT CUT ON HIS HEAD, HY!

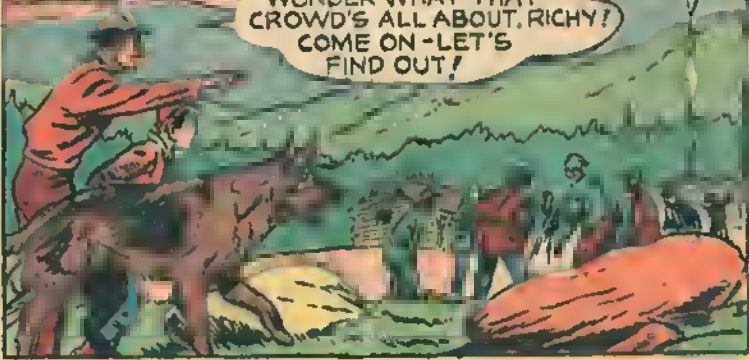
THIS MAN'S BEEN KILLED! PROBABLY WITH AN AXE!



WE'D BETTER GO BACK TO CAMP AND SEND A PARTY OUT AFTER THIS BODY!



AS THEY NEAR THEIR CAMP -



WONDER WHAT THAT CROWD'S ALL ABOUT, RICHY! COME ON - LET'S FIND OUT!

WHAT'S THE TROUBLE HERE, MISTER? IT'S THAT BULLY, SCOTT, AND HIS DOG - THEY'RE ALWAYS CAUSING TROUBLE AROUND HERE!



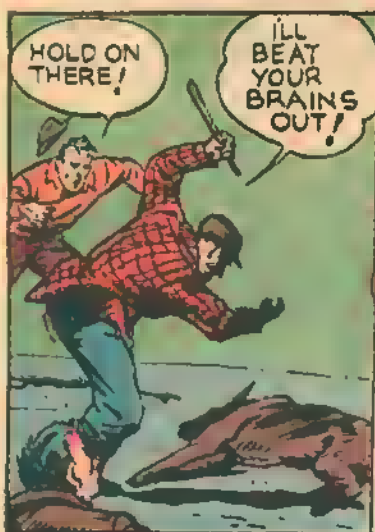
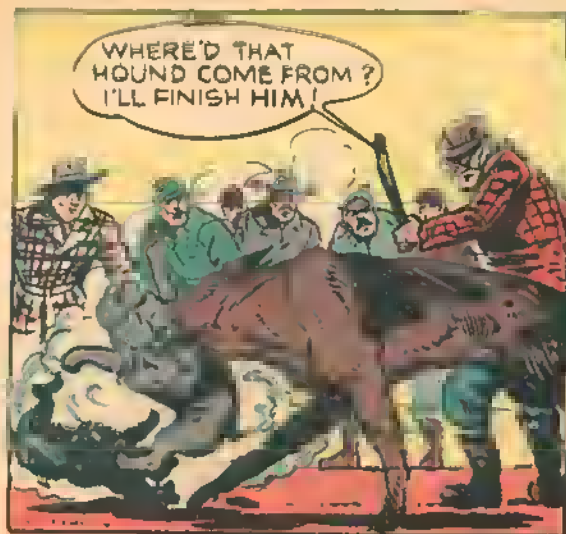
WHY DON'T YOU STOP THEM - IT'S TOO UNFAIR A MATCH! LET 'EM ALONE OR I'LL SLUG YA!



RANG, SEEING THE SMALLER DOG'S PLIGHT, IMMEDIATELY SPRINGS TO HIS AID -



GRRR ARAFF





I'LL GO
GET THE
DOCTOR!

COME ON, LET'S
GET HIM IN THE
HOUSE - HIS LEG'S
BROKEN!

THAT
SKUNK!
HE GOT
AWAY!



IN THE CONFUSION RANG IS MOM-
ENTARILY FORGOTTEN, HOWEVER,
THE SMALL DOG WHOM HE HAS
HELPED COMES
TO HIS AID -



RANG STIRS SLIGHTLY
AND THEN REGAINS HIS
FEET -



HE LOOKS ABOUT HIM
BLANKLY, THEN TURNS -



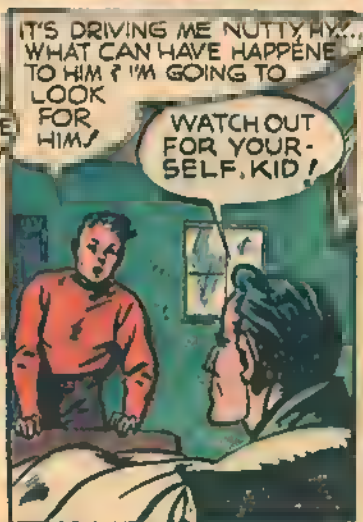
AND GOES OFF INTO THE
WOODS, HIS MIND A COM-
PLETE BLANK FROM THE
SEVERE BLOW ON HIS
HEAD -



SEVERAL DAYS LATER -

EVERYBODY
KNOWS NOW
THAT SCOTT
IS THE ONE
WHO KILLED
THAT TRAP-
PER, HY.

WE'LL CATCH UP
WITH HIM YET. BUT
RIGHT NOW IT'S
RANG'S ABSENCE
THAT BOTHERS
ME MORE



IT'S DRIVING ME NUTTY, HY...
WHAT CAN HAVE HAPPENED
TO HIM? I'M GOING TO
LOOK
FOR
HIM!

WATCH OUT
FOR YOUR-
SELF, KID!



LATER IN THE AFTERNOON -

THIS IS THE ONLY PART OF
THESE WOODS I HAVEN'T
SEARCHED, YET.
HE'S JUST
GOT TO
BE HERE!

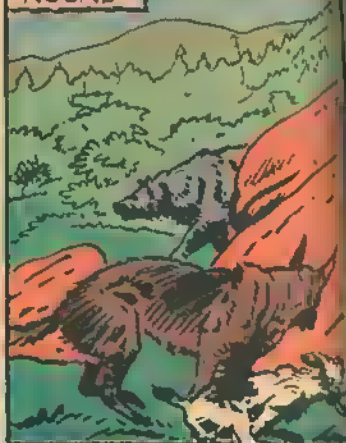
MEANWHILE RANG AND HIS NEW-FOUND PAL HAVE BEEN LIVING LIKE BEASTS OF THE FOREST - SUDDENLY THEY HEAR A SOUND -



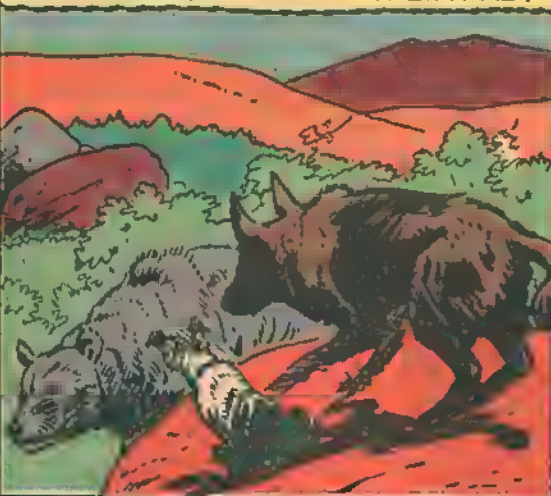
AND A LARGE, PORTLY BEAR COMES INTO VIEW -



THE HUNGRY PAIR CIRCLE BEHIND SOME NEARBY ROCKS -



AND CAUTIOUSLY AWAIT THEIR PREY -



THEN SUDDENLY --



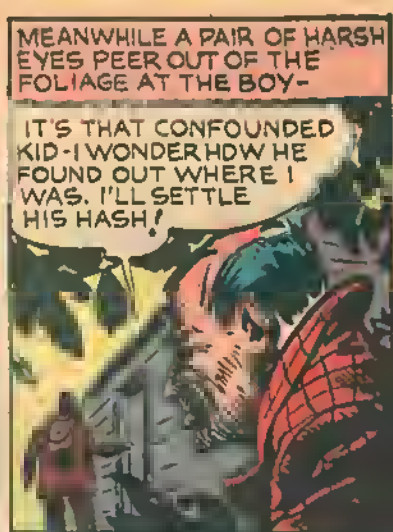
THE FIERCENESS OF THE SURPRISE ATTACK PROVES TOO MUCH FOR EVEN THE HUGE BEAR, AND HE IS SOON AT RANG'S MERCY -



MEANWHILE, CLOSE BY RICHY IS SEARCHING FOR RANG -

MAYBE THE PEOPLE IN THAT CABIN CAN GIVE ME SOME INFORMATION ABOUT RANG!

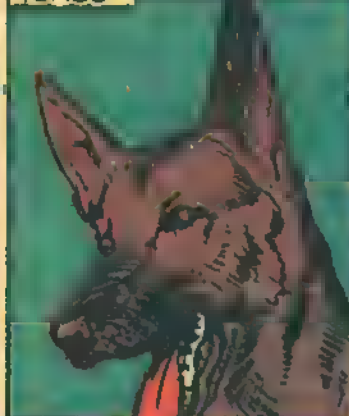




MEANWHILE, CLOSE BY THE RAVENOUSLY HUNGRY DUO PREPARE TO EAT THEIR PREY - WHEN SUDDENLY -



RANG PAUSES AND PERKS UP HIS EARS AT THE VAGUELY FAMILIAR TONES -



WHILE - THINK YOU'RE PRETTY SMART. DO YOU? WELL, THIS TIME YOU'RE REALLY GOING TO LEARN SOMETHING!



THE FRANTIC CRIES SEEM TO SNAP SOMETHING IN RANG'S MIND AND HIS NORMAL PROTECTIVE INSTINCTS HAVE BEEN AROUSED -



FASTER AND FASTER HE RACES IN THE DIRECTION OF THE SHOUTS



ARRIVING HE IMMEDIATELY RECOGNIZES THE STRUGGLING VICTIM AS HIS MASTER, RICHY -



AND HE CHARGES VICIOUSLY AT HIS ANTAGONIST -



I'LL KILL YA SURE - THIS TIME!



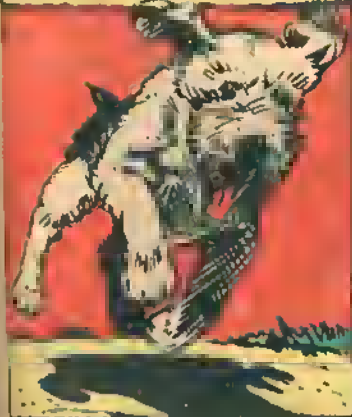
SCOTT'S DESPERATE BLOW MOMENTARILY STUNS RANG -



AND -



JUST THEN - RANG'S PAL RUSHES BREATHLESSLY ONTO THE SCENE SEEING HIS FRIEND'S DANGER -



HE LEAPS BRAVELY AT SCOTT'S UP-RAISED ARM -



AND -



AS RANG LEAPS, THE FERCE-NESS OF HIS CHARGE SENDS SCOTT OVER THE EDGE OF THE PRECIPICE -



WITH HIS LOYAL PAL STILL HANGING ON FEROCIOUSLY -



COME BACK
HERE! YOU
CAN'T HELP
HIM NOW!



POOR LITTLE FELLOW-
HE'S DONE FOR!



COME ON, RANG
WE CAN GET
TO HIM DOWN
THIS WAY!



GOLLY, RANG, TH- THEY'RE
BOTH DEAD! THE LEAST WE
CAN DO FOR YOUR PAL IS
TO GIVE HIM A DECENT
BURIAL, RANG!



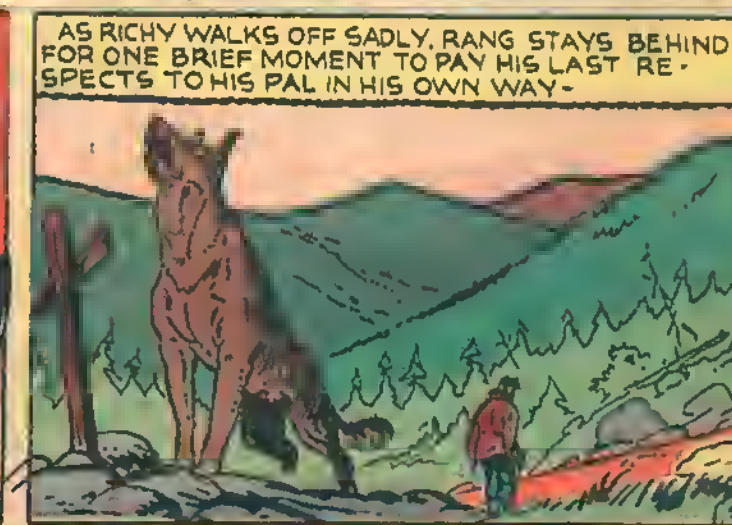
HE WAS A REAL FRIEND, RANG! HE PUT HIS
LOYALTY AND FRIENDSHIP BEFORE EVERY-
THING. HE EVEN GAVE UP HIS LIFE TO
SAVE HIS FRIEND!



COME ON, PAL, WE MIGHT
AS WELL START FOR HOME.
THE LUMBERJACKS WILL
BE SENT BACK HERE FOR
SCOTT'S CORPSE!



AS RICHY WALKS OFF SADLY, RANG STAYS BEHIND
FOR ONE BRIEF MOMENT TO PAY HIS LAST RE-
SPECTS TO HIS PAL IN HIS OWN WAY-



the RANG-A-TANG CLUB

HONOR LEGION

CARE AND TRAINING OF DOGS

MEMBERSHIP



Everyone loves a dog. That is because down deep inside everyone is kind and because everyone seeks companionship. The old adage "Man's best friend is his dog" still holds true.

Do you own a dog? Whether you do or whether you don't, you are entitled to join the Rang-a-Tang Club and to become a prospect for charter membership in the Rang-a-Tang Honor Legion.

The purpose of the Rang-a-Tang Club is to have fellowship among doglovers and dog owners and to promote kindness towards animals. Also the club wants to help you with any problem concerning your dog. The Rang-a-Tang Club's veterinarian, Dr. Alexander Slawson will furnish to members of the club absolutely free by mail only, information about the care and training of dogs.

HOW TO JOIN THE RANG-A-TANG CLUB

Fill in the coupon which contains the Rang-a-Tang Oath and mail it to Hy Speed together with 10c in coin, to cover handling.

Members of the Rang-a-Tang Club will receive an embossed membership card and a Rang-a-Tang button as well as a free copy of Dr. Slawson's booklet "Highlights on the Health of Your Dog and Cat" and the privilege of becoming a charter member in the Rang-a-Tang Honor Legion. Members will also be entitled to receive by mail only the professional advice of Dr. Alexander Slawson, veterinarian, absolutely free.

the RANG-A-TANG HONOR LEGION HOW TO QUALIFY

There are two ways in which you can be admitted as a charter member of the Honor Legion.

1st Way—Is keeping with your Rang-a-Tang oath of membership, write as a letter relating an exceptional deed you performed involving blood and/or courage toward man, animal, bird, cat, horse, bird, or wild life, and you will be eligible to become a charter member in the Rang-a-Tang Honor Legion.

2nd Way—Solicit two of your friends or members of the Rang-a-Tang Club. Here's how to do it:

- A—Just have them apply for membership to the club if you can.
- B—All those who become charter members will have their names published in the pages of the Rang-a-Tang Club.
- C—Outstanding letters will be published in the Rang-a-Tang Honor Legion page.

Charter members of the Rang-a-Tang Honor Legion will receive a beautifully engraved Honor Legion diploma, available for mailing, signed by Dr. Alexander Slawson, D.V.M., Veterinary Medicine, the author, Joe Slawson, the writer, Ed Smith, Jr., and myself.

Just remember this: It is only necessary to do one of the above two things to obtain charter membership in the Rang-a-Tang Honor Legion. Go to it!

MY SPEED

THIS MONTH'S MEMBERSHIP LIST

Ernest Yabbor Box 525 Glen Ridge, N.Y.	James Daniels 1045 7th St. San Francisco, Calif.
Ann Smith 100 Riverside Village Elyria, Ohio.	Bob Brancum R.R. 1 Aurora, Ill.
Don Farmer Hillsboro, N.Y.	J.J. Seigist 254 N. Grand Street Santa Cruz, Calif.

THIS MONTH'S HONOR LEGION LETTER

Dear Hy Speed,

On my way home from a ballgame I was passing by a stream. Up ahead where the bridge crossed the stream, I saw a man on the bridge looking a case into the water. I don't know what made me do what I did, but somehow I felt there was something wrong. I waded into the shallow stream and got the big owl quickly. Something was squirming inside. I pulled it out. It was a dog. That was quite awhile ago. The dog has since given up and we are fast friends.

Sincerely yours,
John Coley, New York, N.Y.

QUESTIONNAIRE PRINT PLAINLY

NAME.....
ADDRESS.....
BREED OF DOG..... SEX OF DOG.....
APPROXIMATE WEIGHT..... CONDITION OF COAT (HAIR).....
EYES..... NOSE..... BOWEL FUNCTIONS.....
OTHER REMARKS.....

MY SPEED
46 BLUE RIBBON COMICS
160 WEST BROADWAY, NEW YORK CITY

DEAR MR. SPEED:

PLEASE ENROLL ME AS A MEMBER OF THE RANG-A-TANG CLUB. I ENCLOSE 10¢ IN COIN TO COVER COST OF HANDLING. IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT I AM TO RECEIVE MY MEMBERSHIP CARD AND A RANG-A-TANG BUTTON.

NAME..... ADDRESS.....

CITY AND STATE..... AGE.....

OATH ON MY HONOR, I PLEDGE MYSELF TO DEAL KINDLY WITH ALL ANIMALS, BE THEY IN DISTRESS OR OTHERWISE, TO DO A GOOD DEED WHENEVER I CAN, IN ALL PLACES AT ALL TIMES, I WILL KEEP THIS PLEDGE CONSTANTLY IN MY HEART AND IN MY MIND. I DO SO SOLEMNLY SWEAR—

SIGN NAME.....



The

FOX

GOOD LORD! IT'S INSPECTOR
HANSCON---AND---HIS---HIS
FINGERS----- GONE LIKE THE
OTHERS!

OUT OF THE MURKY
EAST RIVER, THE
CREW OF A HARBOR
POLICE BOAT PULL
IN THE WET AND
SINISTER FORM ONE
OF THE CHINATOWN
SQUAD----- NOW A
FINGERLESS
CORPSE!



RUTH RANSOM ALWAYS ALERT
FOR A STORY, MEETS THE
POLICE BOAT AT THE
DOCK.

LISTEN SISTER!
IF YOU EVER
WANT ANY TIPS
FROM THE FORCE
AGAIN, YOU'D
BETTER KEEP
THIS UNDER
YOUR
HAT!

HEY! HOW'D
THAT RE-
PORTER
GET HERE?



BACK AT THE DAILY GLOBE
LIE, I THINK I'LL DRO-
DOWN TO CHINATOWN--
YOU KNOW---HUMAN
INTREST STORY



HUMAN INT... HUH, NOT
IF I KNOW RUTH THERE
MUST BE SOMETHING
UP, DOWN THERE AND I'M
WRITING MYSELF A PER-
SONAL IN-
VITATION...
NOW!



NO PAUL ..YOU'D
BETTER HAVE
YOUR CHOW
MEIN SENT IN .
I'M GO-
ING
A NEC



BUT-DISGUISED,
PATTON
FOLLOWS
ANYWAY.



RUTH BOARDS A CHINATOWN SIGHT SEEING
BUS, CLOSELY SHADOWED BY THE UN-
RECOGNIZABLE PATTON.



SO ON THEY ARRIVE
AT THE HEART OF
THE ORIENTAL DIS-
TRICT

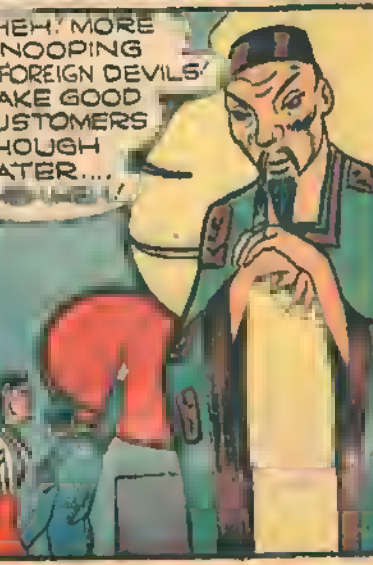


AND ENTER AN AMAZ-
ING CHINESE MUSEUM

HERE WE HAVE
THE GOD
OF
HAPPINESS



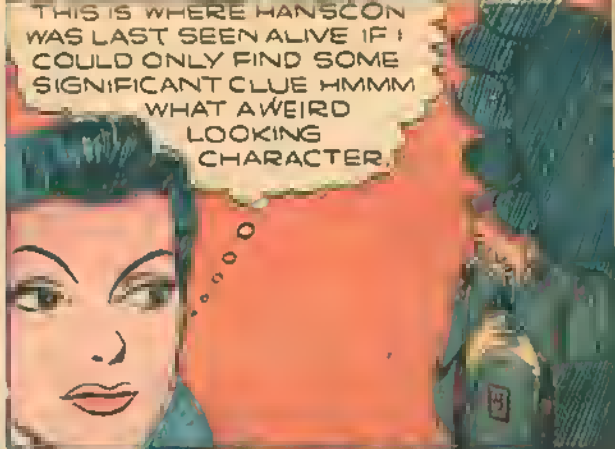
HEH! MORE
SNOOPING
FOREIGN DEVILS!
MAKE GOOD
CUSTOMERS
THOUGH
LATER....
HEHEH!



THIS IS THE ALTAR WHERE
THE CHINESE MAKE
OFFERINGS TO THE
GODS BY BURNING
PIECES OF STICK
CALLED JOSS
STICKS- WHICH
THEY PLACE IN
THESE HOLES



THIS IS WHERE HANSCON
WAS LAST SEEN ALIVE IF I
COULD ONLY FIND SOME
SIGNIFICANT CLUE HMMM
WHAT A WEIRD
LOOKING
CHARACTER.



GOOD LORD! THAT
RING! THE PICTURES
I TOOK OF THE CORPSE
SHOWED THAT HANSCON
HAD WORN AN ALMOND
SHAPED RING FOR A
LONG TIME... UNTIL HIS
FINGERS WERE
CUT OFF!



MY WHAT AN INTEREST-
ING RING MAY I
LOOK AT IT?

TO BE SURE
IS ANCIENT
JEWEL OF
CHANG DY-
NASTY!



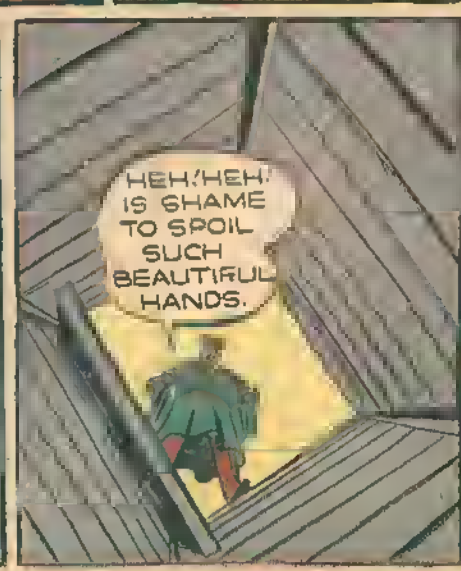
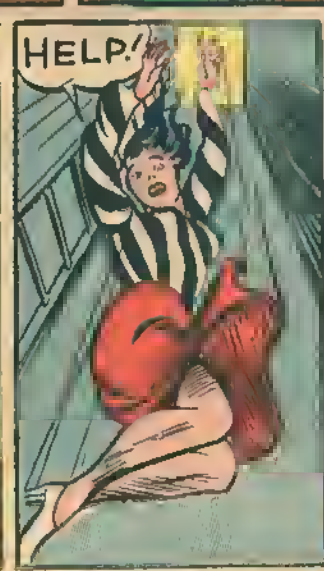
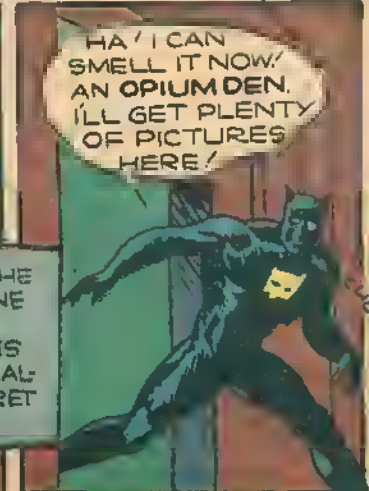
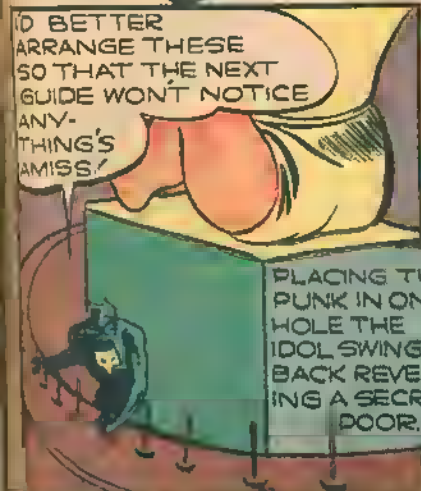
HAVE MANY MORE FINE
RINGS... MY PRETTY ONE.
YOU CARE TO SEE...
MAYBE?



SAY! WHERE'S THAT FUGITIVE
FROM A RICE BOWL LEADING
RUTH! I THINK IT'S TIME THE
FOX PUT IN HIS
APPEARANCE.

PLEASE TO
STEP IN HERE



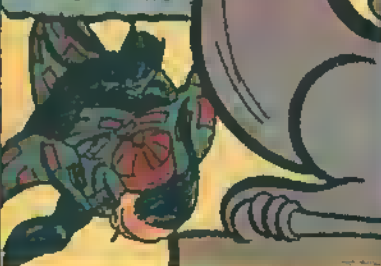


JUST THEN THE CLICK OF
A CAMERA STARTLES
THE MANDARIN

AND SO SHE MEETS FATE
OF OTHER TOO ENLIGHT-
ENED POLICEMEN---
WHO IS THAT?



CARRIED BY
THE
VICIOUS
TACKLE
THE
ORIENTAL
STRIKES HIS
HEAD ON THE
BASE
OF A
STATUE!



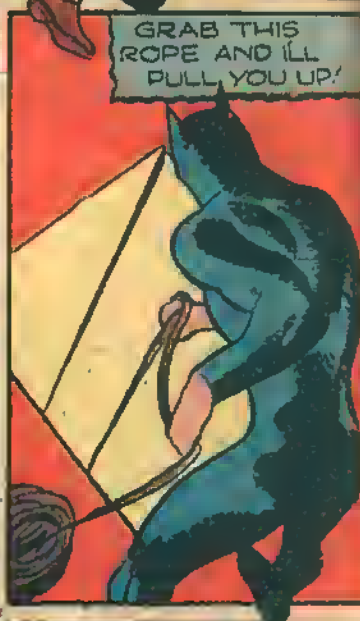
HANG ON!
THANK HEA-
VENS IT'S
THE
FOX!



RUTH!
DON'T TOUCH
THE LADDER!
DON'T TOUCH
IT!

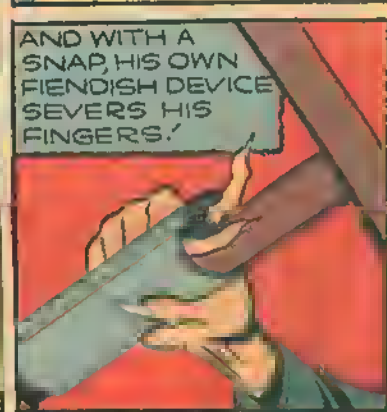
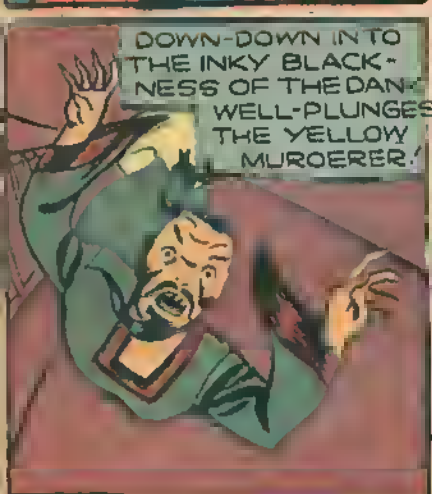


GRAB THIS
ROPE AND I'LL
PULL YOU UP!



LOOK-
OUT!
THE
MAN-
DARIN!





by HURBELL

Corporal COLLINS INFANTRYMAN

IN AN ICEBOUND NORTH RUSSIAN
PORT AN AMERICAN SUPPLY SHIP
ARRIVES FOR UNLOADING -

IT WAS AN UN-
EVENTFUL CROSS-
ING ALL THE WAY!
SIGHTED ONLY
ONE SUB, HERE
OFF NORWAY!

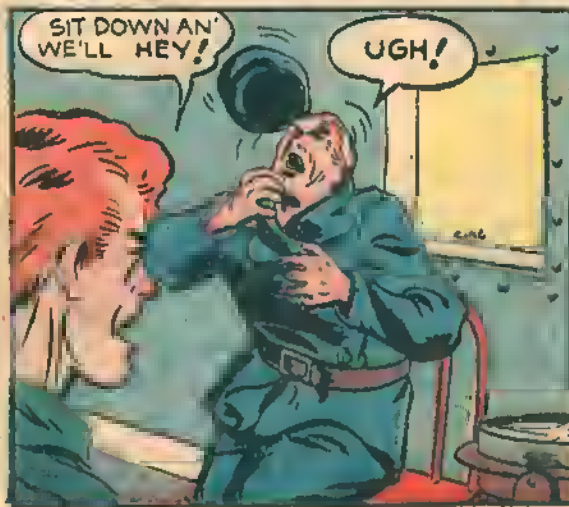
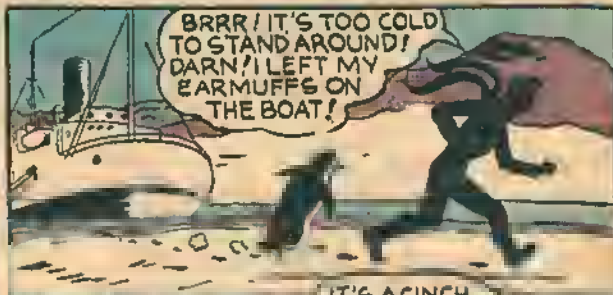
GLAD TO HEAR THAT,
CAPTAIN, BUT SEVERAL
IMPORTANT SHIP-
MENTS HAVE
FAILED TO ARRIVE
IN THE LAST FEW
WEEKS!

WE'VE TRIED EVERY-
THING TO THROW THEM
OFF THE TRACK BUT
THESE HEINIES SEEM
HAVE A SIXTH SENSE
FOR SPOTTING OUR
MOST IMPORTANT
CARGOES!

AS YOU SAY, THERE
MUST BE A WEAK
SPOT SOMEWHERE
ALONG THE LINE!
MAYBE THE PORT
SUPERVISOR IN THIS
FORSAKEN SPOT
HAS A THOUGHT!

OH, YES, HE WAS
SUPPOSED TO BE HERE!
WONDER WHAT'S
KEEPING HIM -
HEY, SLAPSIE!

FOURTEEN
YEARS I BEEN UN-
LOADING CARGO
WITHOUT YOUR HELP
NOW SCRAM!



WHOEVER FIRED THAT
SHOT MUST STILL BE OUT
HERE. QUICK! AROUND
THE DECK!

HE WON'T GET
AWAY! YELL IF
YOU CATCH
HIM. CORP!

SEIZING OUR BOATS WAS
BAD ENOUGH, BUT WHEN
THEY START TAKIN' POT-
SHOTS AT OUR OFFICERS.

ANOTHER
ONE! NOW
WHO'S THIS?

SOMEBODY HIT ME WHEN
I WENT AROUND THE COR-
NER. CORP! OOOH,
MY HEAD!

WELL, HE'S GONE
BY NOW! C'MON,
YOU'LL BE
O.K.!

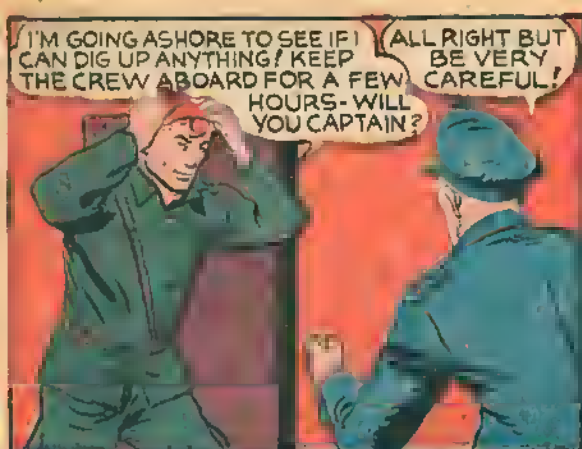
A FINE ONE YOU ARE!
WHY DIDN'T YOU
LOOK BEFORE
YOU WENT
AROUND THE
CORNER?

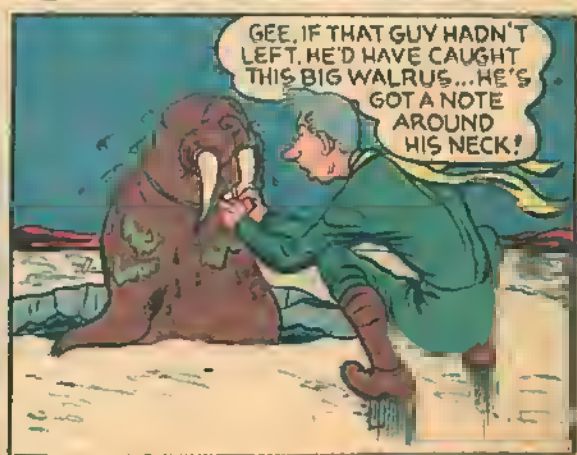
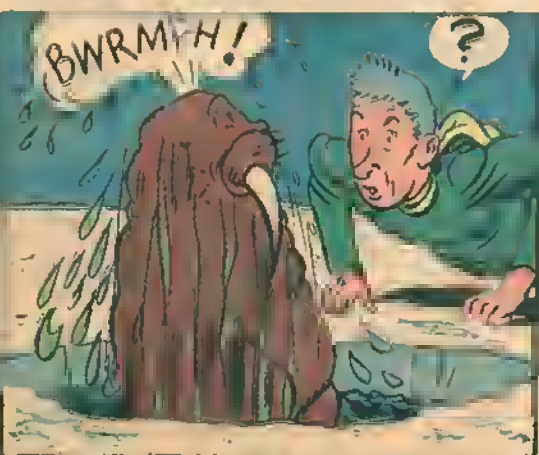
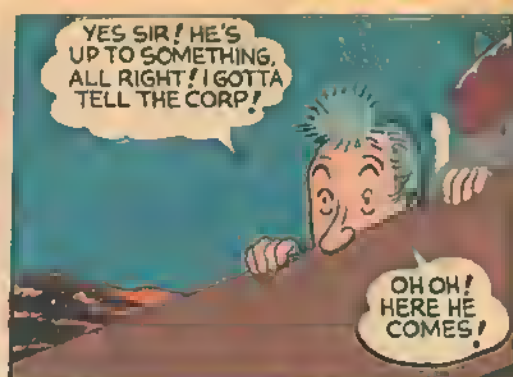
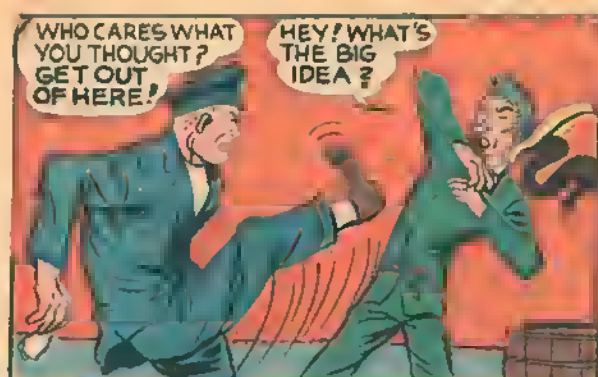
I DID!
HE SNEAKED
UP ON ME FROM
BEHIND!

COLLINS!
THIS MAN
IS DEAD!

EVIDENTLY THE SUPER
HAD LEARNED SOME-
THING, SO THEY KILLED
HIM! I GUESS THAT
PROVES THAT THEIR
BASE IS AROUND
HERE SOMEWHERE!

YES, BUT WHERE?
WE HAVE A WHOLE
PACK OF DESTROY-
ERS OUTSIDE THE
HARBOR THAT CAN'T
FIND THEM!





WOW!

an american ship with
oil cargo is due to
arrive here tomorrow
instead of thursday
as previously an-
nounced. it will
pass the slopotnik
straits at eight o'clock
tonight. Continue
according to plan.

R-11

OBOY OBOY
OBOY! I GOTTA
SHOW THIS TO
CORP RIGHT
AWAY!

I KNEW THAT
SPY WAS A SPY
THE MINUTE I
LAID EYES
ON... OOF!

ULP.. SORRY
I DIDN'T S-SEE
YOU- HE HE-
SO LONG!

**COME
BACK
HERE!**

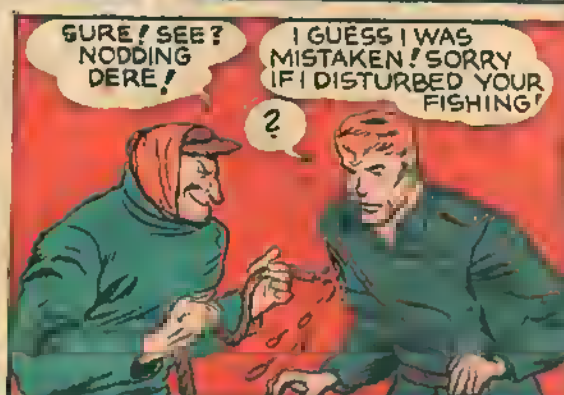
HMMMM! SO!
TOMORROW, EH?
DOT'S VERY
INTERESTING!

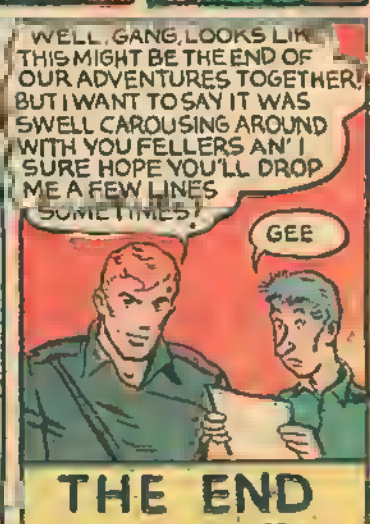
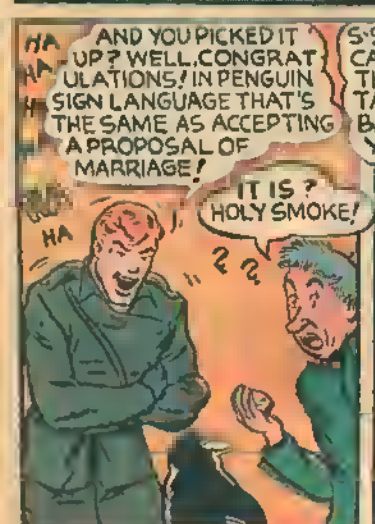
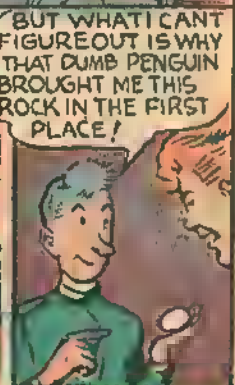
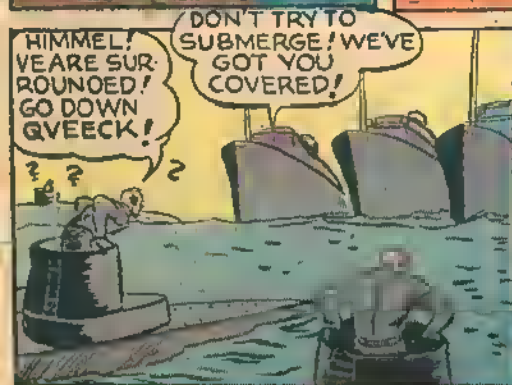
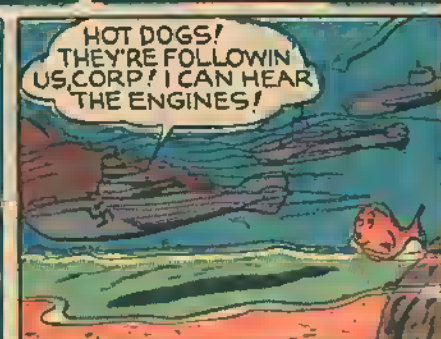
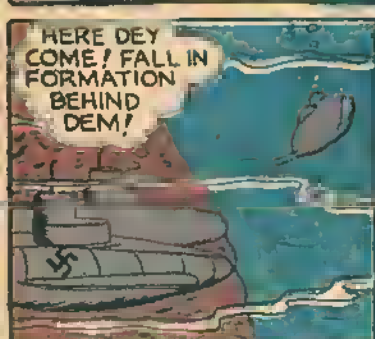
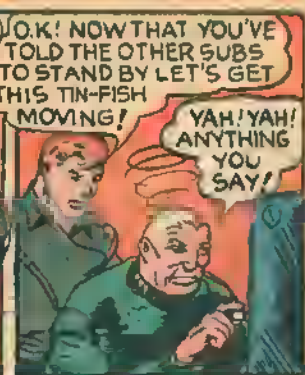
WISH
COLLINS
WAS HERE!

Y-YEAH!
ISN'T IT?
GULP!


OH, YOU TINK SO.
DO YOU? MAYBE YOU
WOULD LIKE TO
DELIVER DIS
MESSAGE!







THE END



GRIMLY THE
BOY DE-
TECTIVE,
DUSTY BATTLED
AGAINST OVER-
WHELMING
ODDS IN
"ONE NIGHT
OF TERROR"

THE BREATH
OF DEATH
WAS HOT ON
JUJU
WATSON'S
FACE WHEN
THE SHIELD
CAME CHARG-
ING TO HIS
RESCUE
AGAINST THE
HOODED
PLAGUE"

THE NEW
SHIELD-WIZARD
6
NO. 6
COMES TO
YOU
WITH A

BANG
ON SALE AT YOUR NEWSSTANDS NOW!

THE WIZARD FLUNG
HIMSELF AT THE INSANE
DOCTOR WHO BE-
LIEVED THE DEAD
CAN WALK AGAIN"

Beethoven

GREATEST OF ALL THE WORLD'S COMPOSERS
THE MIGHTIEST MUSICAL GENIUS OF ALL
TIME, THE NAME BEETHOVEN IS ALMOST A
SYNONYM FOR MAGNIFICENT MUSIC



BORN IN 1770, IN THE TOWN OF
BOUN ON THE RHINE...

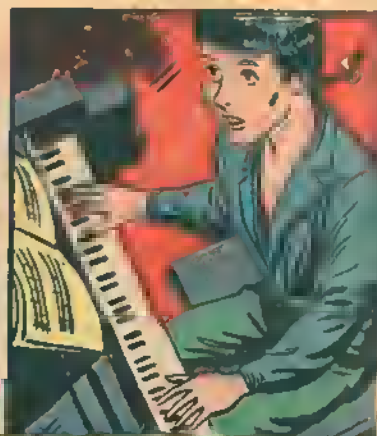
BEETHOVEN GREW UP IN POVERTY- IN A SHABBY,
SQUALID HOME, WHERE THERE WAS NEVER
ENOUGH OF ANYTHING...

YOU FOOL, YOU'VE MIS-
PLACED MY SLIPPERS
AGAIN!



HIS FATHER WAS A CHRON-
IC DRUNKARD AND USED
TO BEAT THE BOY'S MOTH-
ER...

HE'S BEATING HER
AGAIN. I CAN'T BEAR
TO WATCH!



THE BOY'S ONE REFUGE WAS
HIS PIANO. FOR HOURS ON
END HE WOULD PLAY AND
PLAY...

ONE DAY HIS FATH-
ER NOTICES THAT
THE BOY SEEMS
TO HAVE TALENT.



UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF
THE LAD'S MUSIC HIS
FATHER AND MOTHER
WOULD EFFECT TEARFUL
RECONCILIATION---

SIT DOWN
THERE AND
PRACTICE 'TIL
I TELL YOU
TO STOP!



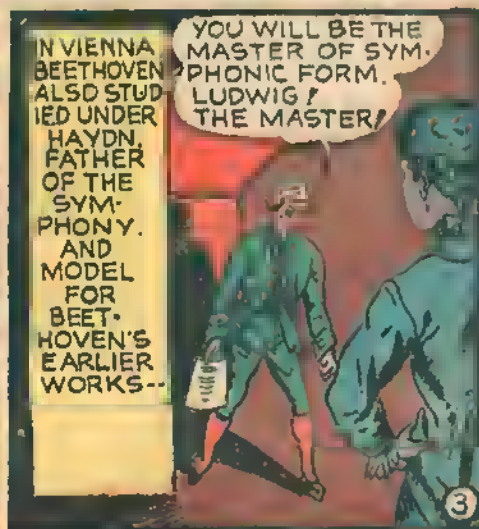
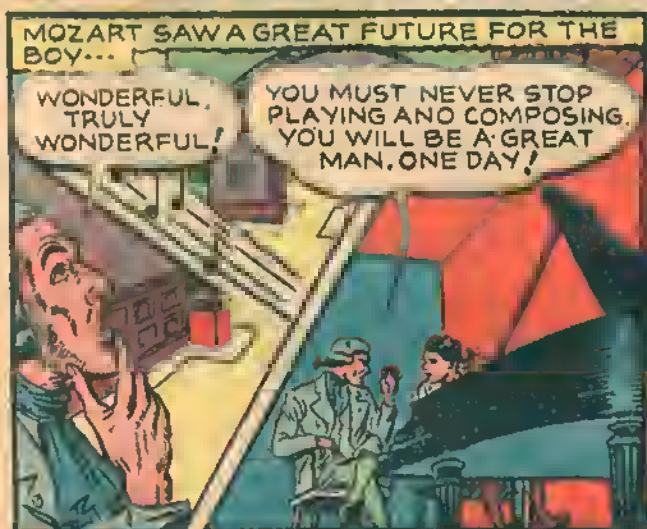
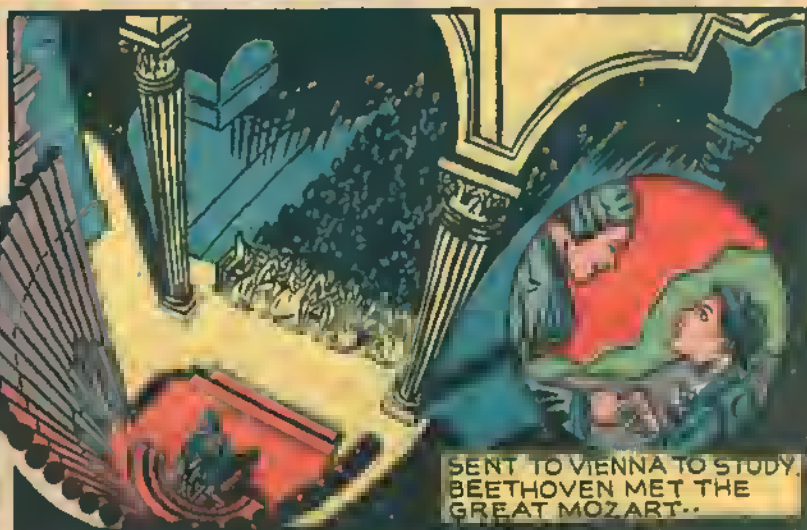
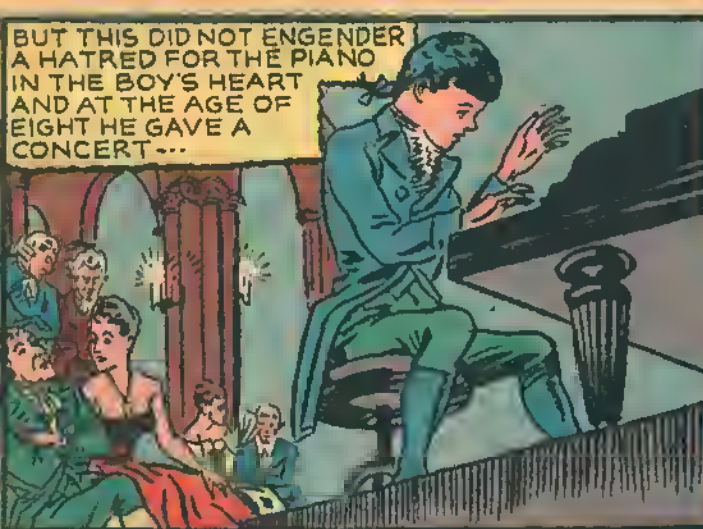
ONCE DECIDED THAT THE
CHILD HAD TALENT, HIS FATH-
ER FORCED HIM TO THE PIANO
IN HIS USUAL BRUTAL MANNER!



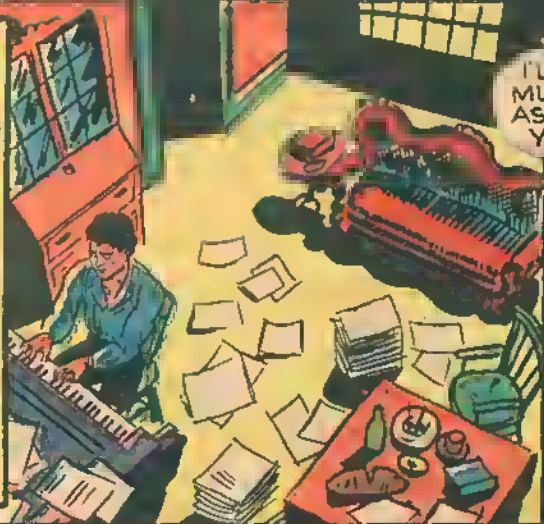
HE AND A DRINKING COMPANION WOULD
TUMBLE THE BOY OUT OF BED IN THE
MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT---



AND FORCE
HIM TO
PLAY UN-
'TIL HE
COULD
HOLD UP
HIS HEAD
NO LONGER



AS HE REACHED MATURITY, BEETHOVEN'S SACRIFICES FOR HIS MUSIC BEGAN IN EARNEST. HE SPENT LONG, WEARY HOURS AT HIS WORK. HIS ROOMS WERE IN PERPETUAL DISORDER. HIS CLOTHES UNCARED FOR. NOTHING MATTERED - BUT TO CREATE -



HIS MANNERS WERE RUSSIAN AND UNCIVIL -

I'LL MAKE AS MUCH NOISE AS I PLEASE - YOU HAG!

YOU'LL HAVE TO BE QUIET AT NIGHT!



IT'S THAT CRAZY MUSICIAN AGAIN!

HE WOULD TORTURE HIS LANDLADIES WITH HIS HABIT OF SPILLING WATER ON HIS WRISTS TO COOL OFF AT NIGHT WHEN HE GREW WARM PLAYING



YOU OWE A MONTH'S RENT YOU SWINDLER!

AND WHEN HE TIRED OF A PLACE HE WOULD SIMPLY MOVE WITHOUT GIVING NOTICE TO HIS LANDLADY...

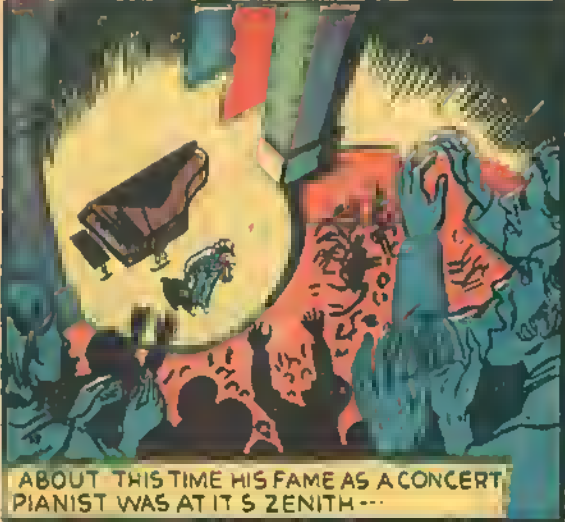


AS HIS REPUTATION GREW, BEETHOVEN BEGAN TO MEET MEMBERS OF THE ARISTOCRACY...

AMONG THESE WAS THE COUNTESS GUICCIARDI WITH WHOM HE FELL IN LOVE...



I WILL DEDICATE THIS PIECE TO HER!

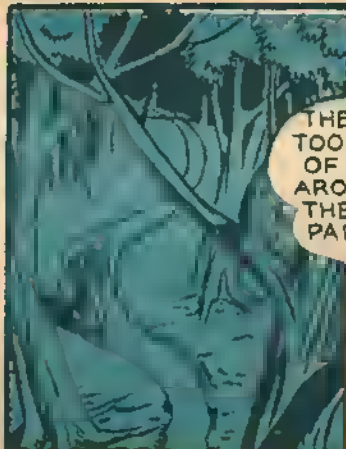


ABOUT THIS TIME HIS FAME AS A CONCERT PIANIST WAS AT ITS ZENITH---

UPON THE DEATH OF HIS BROTHER BEETHOVEN'S NEPHEW CAME TO LIVE WITH HIM. A DRUNKARD AND WASTREL, THE YOUNG MAN CAUSED HIS UNCLE MUCH GRIEF---



I WILL NOT TOLERATE YOUR ESCAPADES ANY LONGER. I HAVEN'T THE TIME TO WASTE ON YOU - YOU DRUNK FOOL!

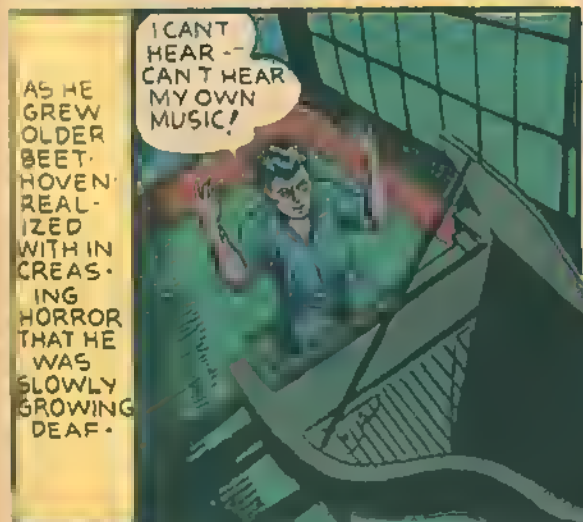


BEETHOVEN LOVED TO TAKE LONG WALKS IN THE COUNTRY---

INDIFFERENT TO HIS APPEARANCE HE WAS ONCE MISTAKEN FOR A VAGRANT ON ONE OF HIS JAUNTS --

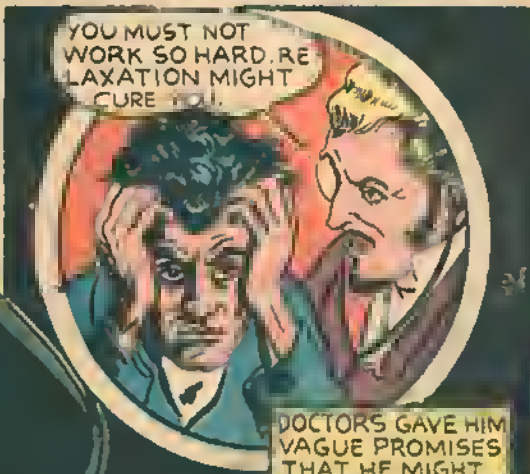


THERE ARE TOO MANY OF YOU AROUND THESE PARTS!



I CAN'T HEAR -- CAN'T HEAR MY OWN MUSIC!

AS HE GREW OLDER BEETHOVEN REALIZED WITH INCREASING HORROR THAT HE WAS SLOWLY GROWING DEAF.



YOU MUST NOT WORK SO HARD. RELAXATION MIGHT CURE YOU.

DOCTORS GAVE HIM VAGUE PROMISES THAT HE MIGHT RECOVER.

I MUST FINISH
THIS SYMPHONY
WHILE I CAN
STILL HEAR
A LITTLE!

BUT BEETHOVEN
KNEW HE
WAS DOOMED
TO DEAFNESS
AND REDOUBLED
HIS EFFORTS
AT COMPOSITION.



MISFORTUNE PILED
ON MISFORTUNE AND
BEETHOVEN DEVELOPED
OTHER AILMENTS---

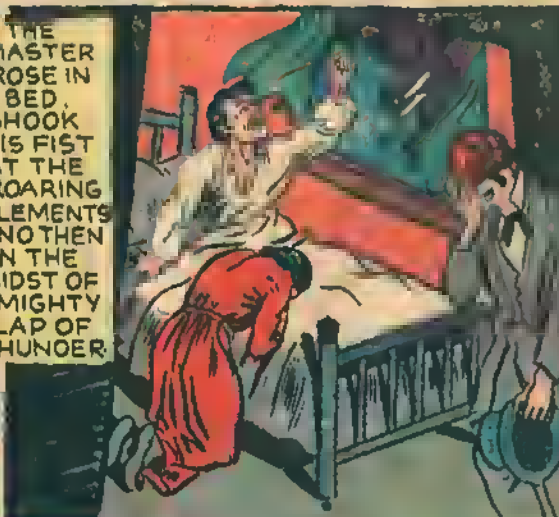


WHEN BEETHOVEN'S IMMORTAL NINTH SYMPHONY WAS PLAYED FOR THE FIRST TIME THE AUDIENCE APPLAUDED WILDLY - BUT BEETHOVEN COULD NOT HEAR IT--- HE WAS STONE DEAF NOW --



BEETHOVEN'S HEALTH GREW WORSE
AND AS HE LAY IN BED ONE NIGHT A
FURIOUS STORM RAGED OUTSIDE --

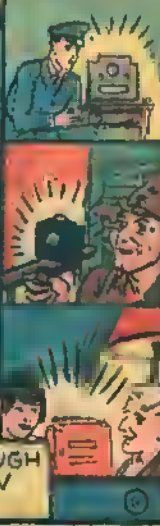
THE
MASTER
ROSE IN
BED,
SHOOK
HIS FIST
AT THE
ROARING
ELEMENTS
AND THEN
IN THE
MIDST OF
A MIGHTY
CLAP OF
THUNDER



HE FELL BACK--DEAD!



ONCE - LISTENING TO BEETHOVEN'S GREAT MUSIC WAS THE PRIVILEGE OF THE FEW WHO PAID FOR CONCERTS.. TODAY, THROUGH RADIO - EVERYBODY IS GROWING TO KNOW AND LOVE BEETHOVEN'S MUSIC!



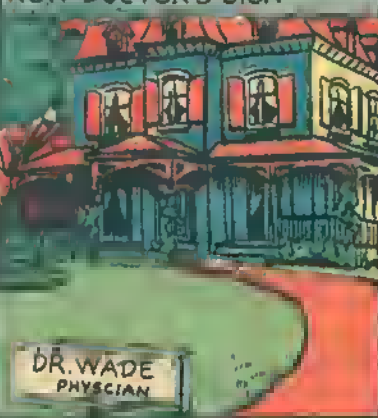
TALES FROM THE WITCH'S CAULDRON

THE NIGHT IS FILLED WITH GLOOM AND THE WIND WHISTLES THROUGH THE TREETOPS AS THE WITCH STIRS HER BOILING CAULDRON AND ANOTHER UNCANNY TALE BEGINS WITH A STRANGE, BROKEN DOWN, OLD HOUSE WHERE NOBODY HAS LIVED FOR MANY YEARS.



HEE, HEE, LUCIFER - THAT HOUSE HAS BEEN THAT WAY FOR YEARS!

SUDDENLY - ONE MORNING THE LAWN WAS FRESHLY CUT THE SHUTTERS FIXED AND ON THE LAWN WAS A BRIGHT NEW DOCTOR'S SIGN---

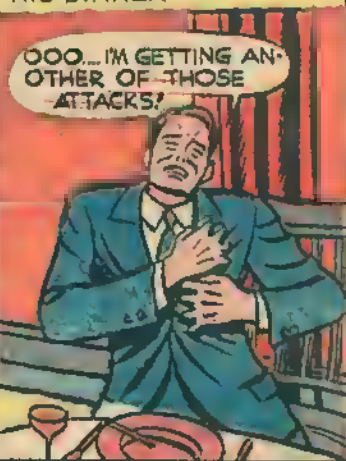


A NEIGHBOR ACROSS THE STREET-

GOOD GRACIOUS, LOOKS LIKE SOMEBODY'S MOVED INTO THE WALLACE HOUSE SINCE LAST NIGHT!



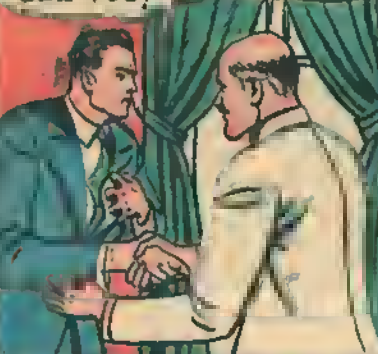
THAT DAY, AT HIS HOME, JOHN PAYNE FINISHES HIS DINNER---



JOHN PAYNE VISITS DR. WADE---

I'M JOHN PAYNE, DOCTOR. IT'S MY HEART. I HAD TO SEE YOU!

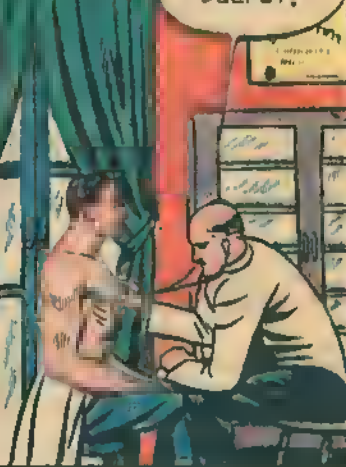
OH, DR FRANK PAYNE'S BROTHER.



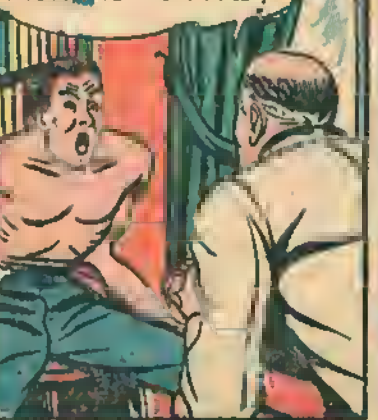
YES, BUT I DON'T EVEN LIKE TO HEAR HIS NAME MENTIONED. NOW, ABOUT THIS PAIN - I FELT IT RIGHT AFTER DINNER. IT WAS EXCRUCIATING!



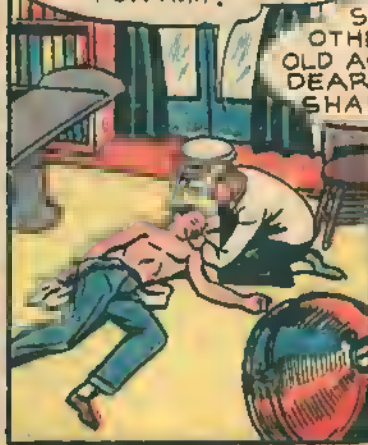
NOW, BREATHE DEEPLY!



JOHN PAYNE, I HATE TO TELL YOU THIS BUT YOU HAVE EXACTLY THREE MONTHS TO LIVE!



HE'S FAINTED - THE SHOCK WAS TOO MUCH FOR HIM!



IT IS UNFORTUNATE ISN'T IT, PAYNE, THAT A DECENT YOUNG MAN LIKE YOU SHOULD HAVE TO DIE WHILE OTHER VERMIN LIVE TO A RIPE OLD AGE - PEOPLE LIKE YOUR DEAR BROTHER, FRANK, SHALL WE SAY?



DEATH IN THREE MONTHS. DR. WADE WAS RIGHT. IT ISN'T FAIR. FRANK CHEATED ME OF OUR FATHER'S LEGACY. HE'S DONE VICIOUS THINGS TO MANY PEOPLE - YET HE'LL LIVE AND I'LL DIE!



IN DR. WADE'S OFFICE ---

HA HA! IN ANOTHER HALF HOUR DR FRANK PAYNE WILL DIE BY HIS OWN BROTHER'S HAND AND I SHALL HAVE HAD MY REVENGE!



IN HIS LIBRARY, DR. FRANK PAYNE SPENDS A QUIET EVENING --



SUDDENLY OUT OF THE AIR A VOICE SPEAKS TO HIM --

REVENGE!



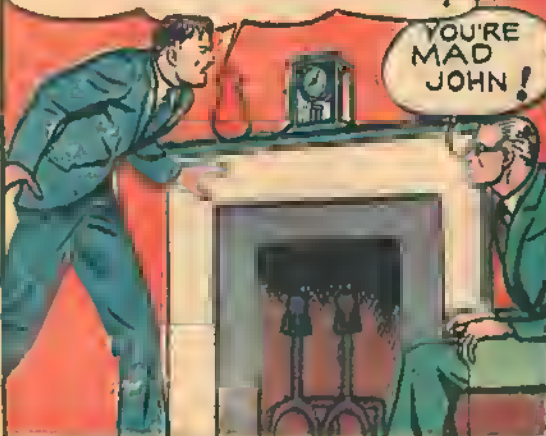
MUST BE SOMETHING WRONG WITH ME. I SEEM TO BE HEARING THINGS BUT THAT SOUNDED LIKE WALLACE'S VOICE!



JOHN!



AND I NEVER WANTED TO SEE YOU AGAIN, EITHER - BUT I'M GOING TO DIE. FRANK - AND I'M TAKING YOU WITH ME!



YOU'RE MAD JOHN!

I'M GOING TO DIE IN THREE MONTHS BUT YOU AREN'T GOING TO LIVE TO ENJOY THE MONEY YOU CHEATED ME OF!



AG-H-H-H-H!

HEE, HEE, AND NOW -
LET'S GO BACK SEVER-
AL YEARS AND SEE --



WHYALL THIS HAPPENED
AND WHY DR. FRANK
PAYNE NOW LIES
DEAD!



BUBBLE -
CAULDRON -
BUBBLE -
AND
FINISH
YOUR
TALE!



SEVERAL YEARS AGO --
DR. FRANK PAYNE AND
DR. WALLACE
WERE
OPER-
ATING!



BE CAREFUL - PAYNE -
OR HE'LL DIE!

MIND YOUR
OWN BUSI-
NESS, WALLACE,
I'M IN CHARGE
HERE!



HE'S
DEAD.



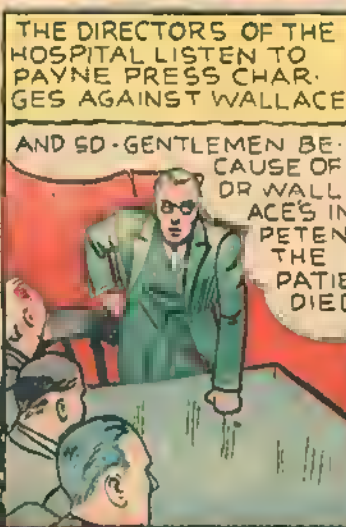
IT'S YOUR
FAULT, WALLACE
YOU BUNGLING
FOOL!



WH... WHY YOU DID
IT? YOU KNOW
YOU DID IT!

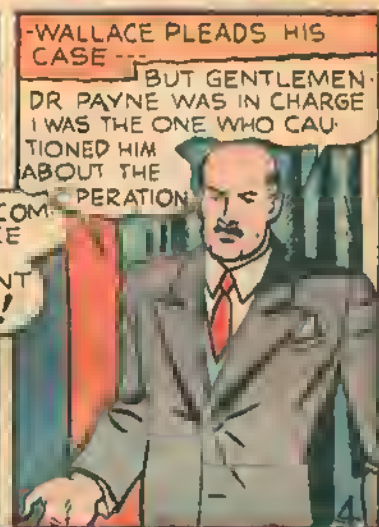
THE DIRECTORS OF THE
HOSPITAL LISTEN TO
PAYNE PRESS CHAR-
GES AGAINST WALLACE.

AND SO - GENTLEMEN BE -
CAUSE OF
DR WALL-
ACE'S INCOM-
PETENCE
THE
PATIENT
DIED!



-WALLACE PLEADS HIS
CASE --

BUT GENTLEMEN -
DR PAYNE WAS IN CHARGE
I WAS THE ONE WHO CAU-
TIONED HIM
ABOUT THE
OPERATION



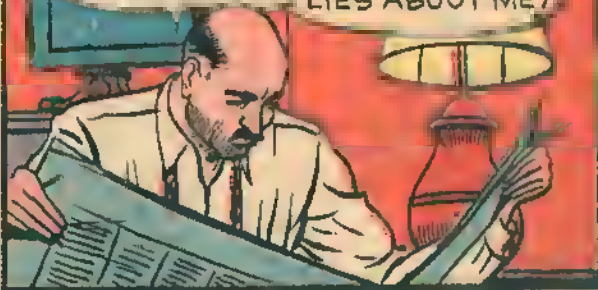
A DIRECTOR RISES TO PAYNE'S DEFENCE ---

THAT'S ENOUGH - DR. WALLACE!
YOU ARE SLANDERING THIS HOSPITAL'S
FINEST SURGEON!



DISCHARGED FROM THE HOSPITAL'S STAFF
DR. WALLACE BECOMES A BROKEN MAN ---

THE PAPERS ARE FULL OF PAYNE'S
LIES ABOUT ME!



YOU MUST TELL THEM I DON'T BE A FOOL. WALL
IT WAS NOT MY FAULT, WALLACE. WHY SHOULDN'T
PAYNE. YOU KILLED HIM! LET YOU BE THE
THAT PATIENT! SCAPEGOAT?

I NEVER
LIKED YOU
ANYWAY!



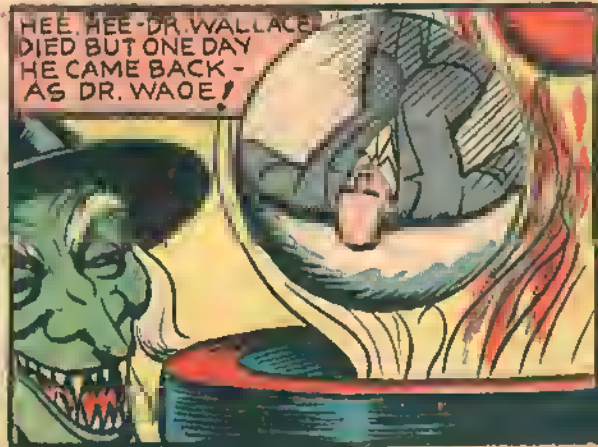
ALLRIGHT - PAYNE, BUT SOME
DAY YOU'LL PAY FOR WHAT
YOU'VE DONE TO ME!



HEART-BROKEN, DISGRACED, DEPRIVED
OF HIS ONLY MEANS OF EARNING A
LIVELIHOOD, DR. WALLACE TOOK
THE ONLY WAY OUT.

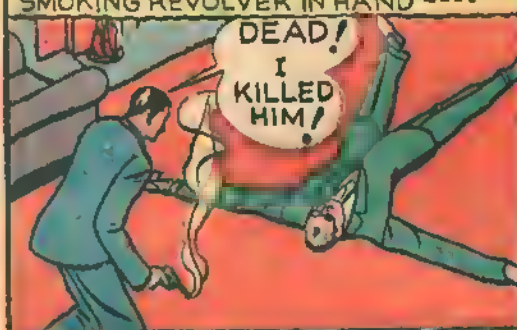


HEE, HEE - DR. WALLACE
DIED BUT ONE DAY
HE CAME BACK -
AS DR. WADE!



AND NOW - JOHN PAYNE STANDS OVER
HIS BROTHER'S DEAD BODY ----
SMOKING REVOLVER IN HAND ----

DEAD!
I
KILLED
HIM!



I HEARD A
SHOT. HEY,
THAT GUY LY-
ING OVER
THERE! YOU
SHOT HIM!



CAUGHT YOU RED HANDED
EH-BUDDY?
YOU'LL FRY FOR THIS!

JOHN PAYNE, FOR
MURDERING YOUR
BROTHER, I
SENTENCE YOU
TO DIE IN THE
ELECTRIC CHAIR
ON THE 20TH OF
MARCH!

FINAL CHECK-
UP BEFORE
YOU'RE EL-
ECTROCUTED.
OLO
MAN!

YOU DON'T HAVE TO
TELL ME. I KNOW MY
HEART'S ONLY GOOD
FOR THREE
MONTHS.
ANYWAY!
I MIGHT
AS WELL
DIE
NOW!

ON THE CON-
TRARY-YOUR
HEART'S
GOOD FOR
ANOTHER
FIFTY
YEARS.
TOO BAD
YOU'LL
HAVE TO
DIE, NOW!

BUT-I WAS TOLD-I ONLY HAD
THREE MONTHS TO LIVE!

NONSENSE - YOU'RE
FIT AS A FIDDLE!

THE SHOCK OF THE PRISON DOCTOR'S
DISCLOSURE IS TOO MUCH FOR JOHN
PAYNE ---

GOOD LORD-
HE'S DEAD!

WHA - WHY THE
WALLACE HOUSE
IS ALL
GONE
TO
POW
AGAIN.
NIGHT!

NEXT DAY -

YOU SEE, LUCIFER, D.
WALLACE ONLY CAME
BACK FROM THE DEAD LONG
ENOUGH TO TRICK JOHN
PAYNE INTO KILLING HIS
BROTHER. THEN HE RE-
TURNED TO THE
SPooky REGION HE
CAME FROM. HEE-HEE
PRETTY STORY - ISN'T
IT?

THE TALK OF THE TOWN!

THE NEW COMIC BOOK EVERYBODY'S TALKING ABOUT-
AND BUYING ON SALE NOW!

SPECIAL

Comics

Special

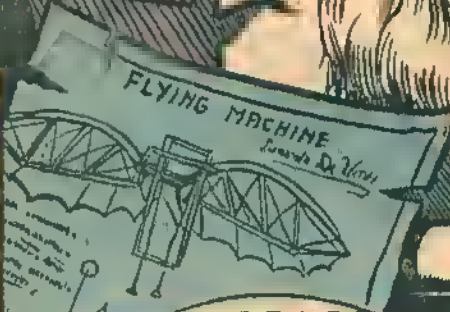
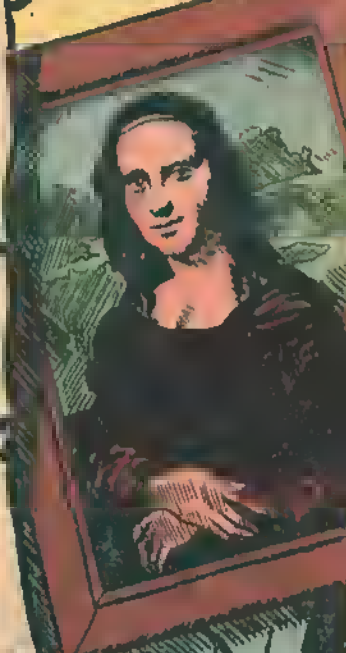
CASES OF THE HANGMAN
WITH ROY and DUSTY THE BOY BUDDIES



SPECTACULAR
HIT OF
PEP Comics

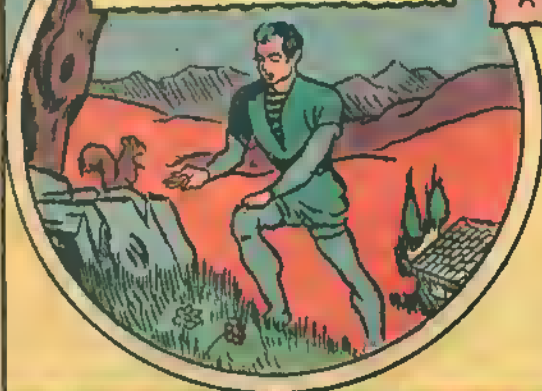
LEONARDO DA VINCI

GREATEST OF ALL MINDS
IN THE RENAISSANCE WAS
LEONARDO DA VINCI, ART-
IST, INVENTOR, PHILOSOPH-
ER. HE ANTICIPATED MANY
OF THE REVOLUTIONARY
DEVICES OF MODERN TIMES.
THIS IS THE STORY OF HIS
LIFE.



AS A BOY, LEONARDO'S
FATHER, LET HIM SPEND MUCH
OF HIS TIME IN THE COUNTRY
WHERE HE LEARNED TO
LOVE NATURE

WHEN HE WAS
BROUGHT BACK
TO THE CITY, HIS
HALF BROTHERS
AND SISTER TOOK
A DISLIKE TO HIM



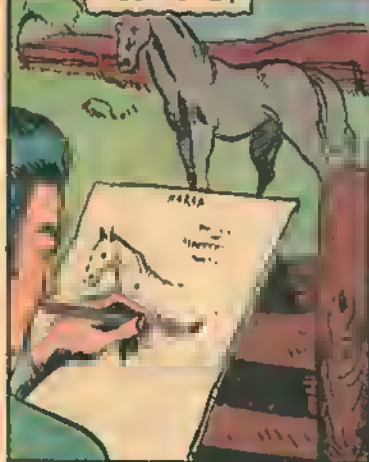
ALWAYS STUDYING YOU BOOK WORM



BUT LEONARDO IGNORES THEIR TAUNTS AND SPENDS ALL HIS TIME STUDYING MATHEMATICS AND LEARNING TO PLAY MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS



...AND DRAWING PICTURES FROM LIFE.



SOME DAY MY PAINTINGS WILL BE FAMOUS ALL OVER THE WORLD.



LEONARDO'S FATHER SHOWS THE BOY'S PAINTINGS TO VERROCCHIO, A GREAT ARTIST OF THE TIME.

HE HAS GENIUS!



LEONARDO BECOMES VERROCCHIO'S PUPIL

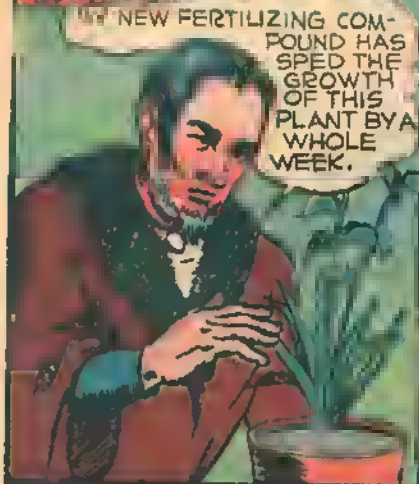
YOU MUST PAINT LIFE AS YOU SEE IT-- NOT AS YOU THINK IT OUGHT TO BE



AS LEONARDO GREW OLDER, HIS INTERESTS INCLUDE EVERY FIELD, -- GEOLOGY.

THIS IS A RARE ROCK FORMATION. I MUST TAKE A SPECIMEN TO MY LABORATORY

BOTANY---



ANATOMY---



LEONARDO WATCHES THE BIRDS IN FLIGHT.

IF ONLY MEN
COULD FLY LIKE
THAT.

INSPIRED BY HIS SPECULATIONS, LEONARDO
AND AN ASSISTANT CONSTRUCT A CRUDE FLYING
MACHINE.

IF THIS FLYING MACHINE
WORKS, IT WILL CHANGE
THE COURSE OF HISTORY.

I CAN HARDLY
WAIT TO TEST IT,
MASTER
LEONARDO.

LEONARDO'S ASSIS-
TANT PREPARES
TO TAKE OFF.

HE CRASHES
TO THE
GROUND.

A FAILURE!
BUT SOME
DAY MEN
WILL FLY!

THE MONKS OF SAN DONATO
COMMISSIONS LEONARDO TO
DO A PAINTING.

THIRTY MONTHS LATER
LEONARDO COM-
PLETES THE FAM-
OUS ADOR-
NATION OF
THE MAGI.

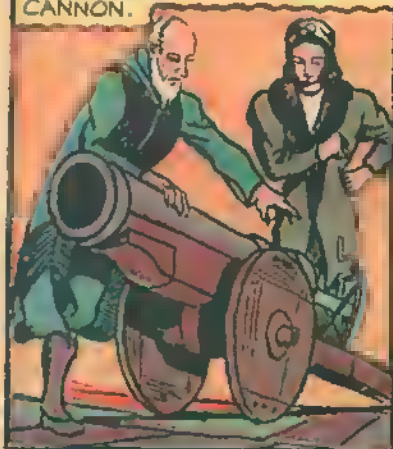
LEONARDO HAD A PE-
CULIAR PHILOSOPHY.

BAH! ONLY BUT, MASTER
DESIGN FOR YOU HAVE
THE MASTER. NOT FIN-
EXECUTION IS-ISHED
FOR SER- THE
VANTS. PICTURE

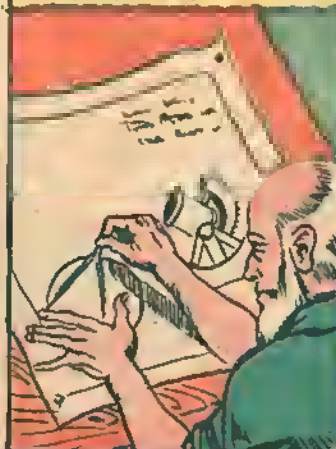
LEONARDO ENTERS THE
SERVICE OF THE
DUKE OF MILAN.

I WILL GIVE
YOU ALL THE
LEISURE YOU
NEED TO
CARRY ON
YOUR
WORK.

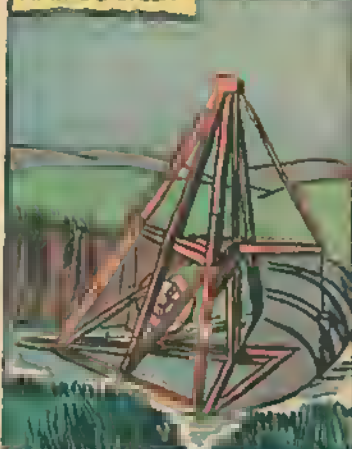
LEONARDO CONSTRUCTED THE FIRST BREECH LOADING CANNON.



DESIGNED THE EARLIEST MACHINE GUN ----



INVENTED THE FIRST CANAL LOCKS.



DEvised METHODS FOR DRAINING SWAMPS.



AND PLANNED A COMPLETE SEWAGE SYSTEM.



IF WE BUILD THESE SEWERS, OUR CITIES WILL BE CLEANER, AND A HEALTHIER PLACE TO LIVE IN.



ONE DAY, LEONARDO BEGAN WORK IN FRESCO AGAIN.



AND AFTER SEVERAL YEARS, FINISHED HIS IMMORTAL MASTERPIECE---THE LAST SUPPER.



AT ABOUT THIS TIME LEONARDO MET MONA LISA WHOSE LOVELY FEATURES AND MYSTERIOUSLY SAD SMILE CAPTIVATED HIM.



MONA LISA'S HUSBAND HAD PAWNED HER JEWELS AND MADE HER WEAR BLACK.



THUS IT HAPPENED, THAT SHE WORE SUCH SOMBER CLOTHES WHEN SHE SAT FOR LEONARDO.



THIS WILL BE THE GREATEST PAINTING OF MY CAREER



LEONARDO SPENT HIS LAST YEARS AT THE COURT OF KING FRANCIS I OF FRANCE. THERE HE SPENT HIS DAYS STUDYING AND WRITING.

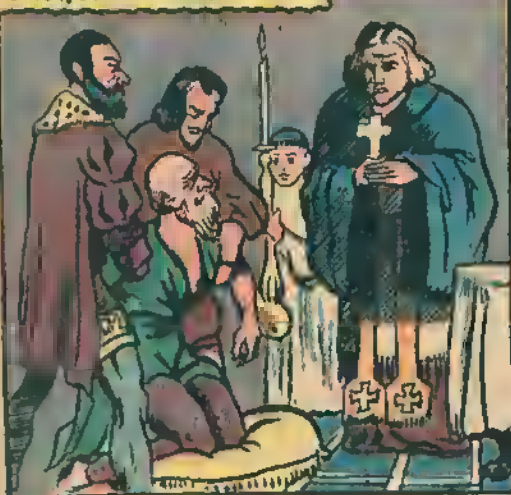


AND TOWARD THE END, DIC-TATING TO HIS DISCIPLES.

THE PROGRESS OF THE WORLD, DEPENDS UPON SCIENTIFIC OBSERVATION-EXPERIMENT.



IN HIS EIGHTIES AND ACTIVE TO THE LAST, LEONARDO DIED

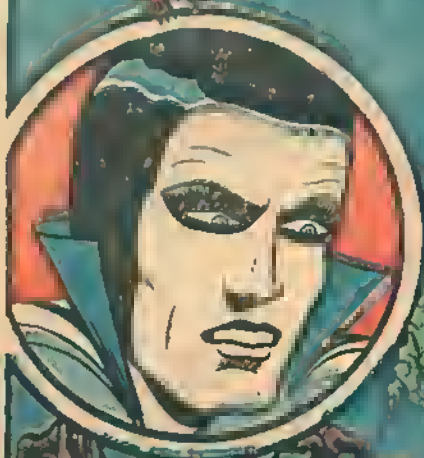


IN THE LOUVRE IN PARIS, HANGS THE MONA LISA. MILLIONS WHO SEE IT EACH YEAR MARVEL AT THE GENIUS OF THE MAN WHO CREATED THIS SUPERIOR WORK OF ART.



EVERY ISSUE OF BLUE RIBBON COMICS CONTAINS MORE FAS-CINATING STUDIES OF FAMOUS HISTORICAL FIGURES.

MR JUSTICE



S. COOPER

HIGH ON A DESOLATE CRAG, MIDST THE
OVERHANGING GRAY MISTS, SHROUDING
THE GRIM BLEAK SCOTTISH MOORS,
STANDS ROGERS CASTLE. FOR CENTUR-
IES UNINHABITED BY ALL, SAVE GENER-
ATION AFTER GENERATION OF CARE-
TAKERS, UNTIL ONE DAY...

I HAVE
THE MOST
UNCANNY
FEELING
THAT SOME
STRANGE FORCE
IS DIRECTING
ME TO THAT
OLD CASTLE!

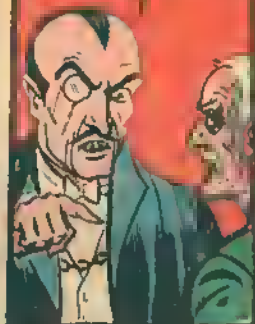


AN AGED CARE-TAKER ANSWERS THE STRANGER'S RING -

SIR HAROLD!
YOU'VE COME
AT LAST!



THAT IS MY
NAME, ALRIGHT.
BUT I'M NO KNIGHT.
HOW DID YOU
KNOW MY
NAME, ANY.
HOW?



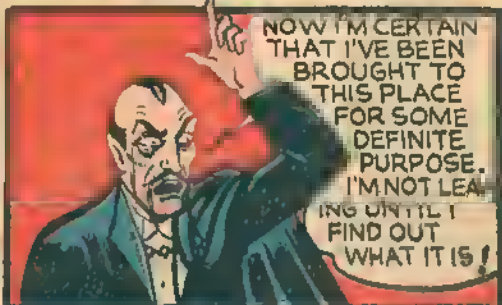
LOOK AT THAT PORTRAIT!
THERE CAN BE NO
MISTAKE - YOU ARE
SIR HAROLO!



JOVE! YOU'RE RIGHT -
THAT IS A PERFECT
LIKENESS OF ME -
NO MISTAKING
THAT!



NOW I'M CERTAIN
THAT I'VE BEEN
BROUGHT TO
THIS PLACE
FOR SOME
DEFINITE
PURPOSE.
I'M NOT LEA-
VING UNTIL I
FIND OUT
WHAT IT IS!



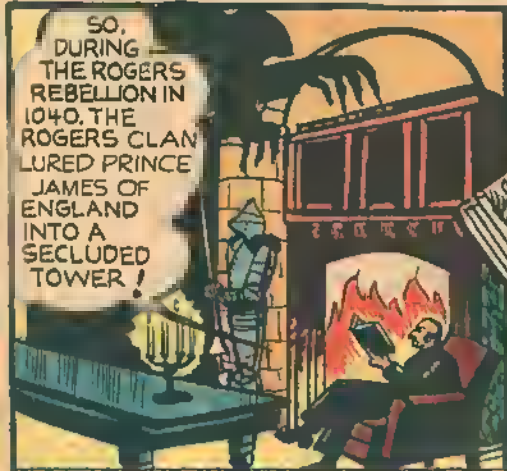
LATER - THERE MIGHT
BE SOME-
THING HERE
THAT
WILL
ENLIGHTEN
ME!



HMM, HISTORY
OF THE ROGER
CLAN. THIS
SHOULD BE
INTEREST-
ING!

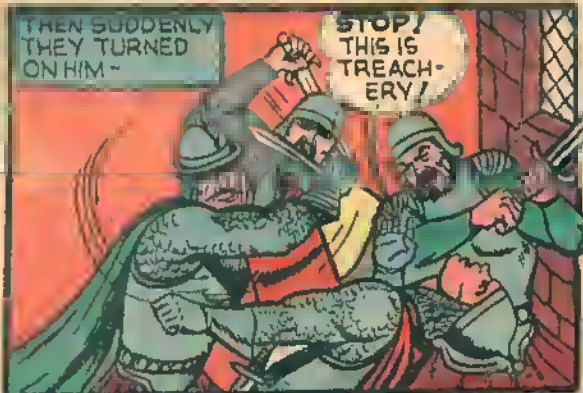


SO,
DURING
THE ROGERS
REBELLION IN
1040, THE
ROGERS CLAN
LURED PRINCE
JAMES OF
ENGLAND
INTO A
SECLUDED
TOWER!



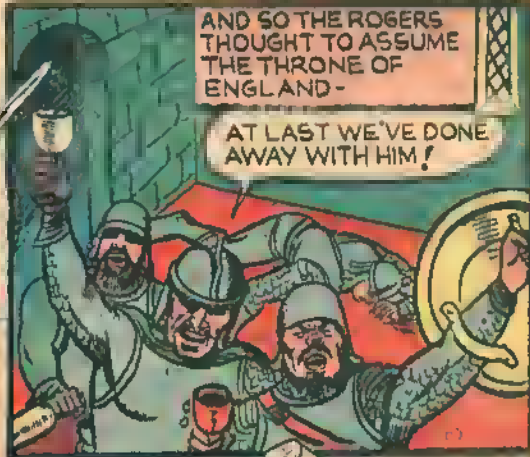
AND GUARANTEED
HIM SAFETY -





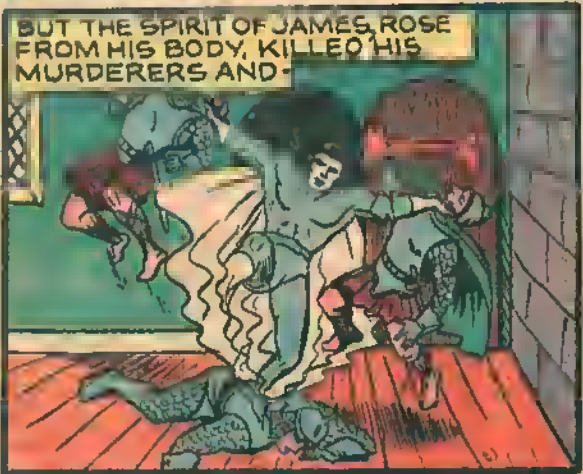
THEN SUDDENLY
THEY TURNED
ON HIM -

STOP!
THIS IS
TREACH-
ERY!



AND SO THE ROGERS
THOUGHT TO ASSUME
THE THRONE OF
ENGLAND -

AT LAST WE'VE DONE
AWAY WITH HIM!

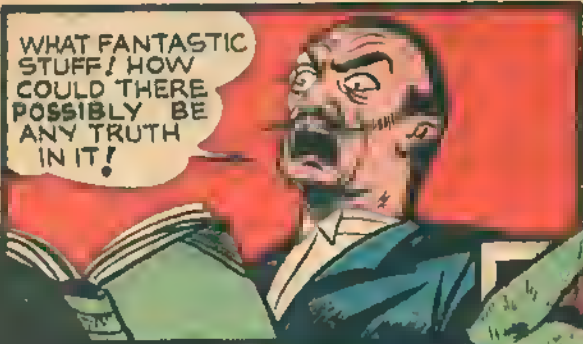


BUT THE SPIRIT OF JAMES ROSE
FROM HIS BODY, KILLED HIS
MURDERERS AND -



FLOATED OFF -

INTO SPACE -



WHAT FANTASTIC
STUFF! HOW
COULD THERE
POSSIBLY BE
ANY TRUTH
IN IT!



MIGHT AS WELL
GO TO BED AND
LOOK AROUND
IN THE MORN-
ING!



AS ROGERS
LIES ASLEEP
AN EERIE
SHADOW
APPEARS
AT HIS
WINDOW -



AND THEN -

GREAT
HEAVENS -
WHAT'S
THAT?



WHO ARE YOU?
WHAT DO YOU WANT?

DON'T BE FRIGHTENED! I AM THE SPIRIT OF YOUR ANCESTOR, SIR HAROLD ROGERS!



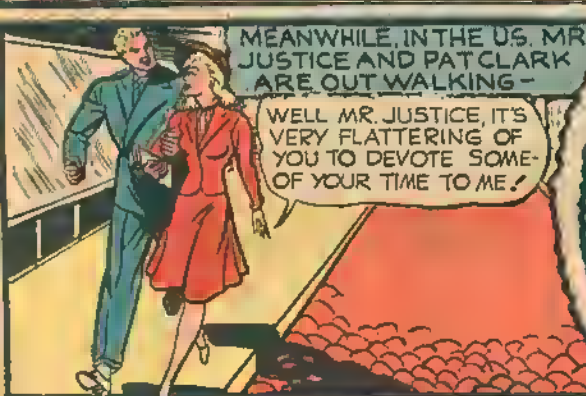
I HAVE WAITED CENTURIES FOR A ROGERS TO COME BACK TO THIS CASTLE! THERE IS A SACRED FAMILY DUTY WHICH YOU MUST PERFORM!



IN THE COURTYARD IS A STONE WHICH WHEN TOUCHED WILL ENABLE A MORTAL TO GO BACK INTO THE PAST - YOU MUST DO THIS!

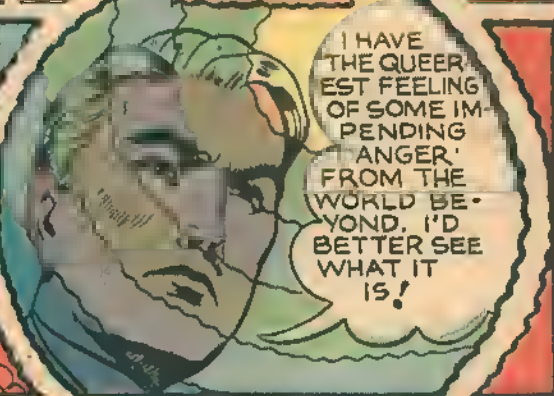


AND FIND THE BODY OF PRINCE JAMES AND BURN IT, SO THAT HIS SOUL WILL BE DESTROYED. ONLY THEN CAN I REST IN PEACE!



MEANWHILE, IN THE U.S. MR JUSTICE AND PAT CLARK ARE OUT WALKING -

WELL MR. JUSTICE, IT'S VERY FLATTERING OF YOU TO DEVOTE SOME OF YOUR TIME TO ME!



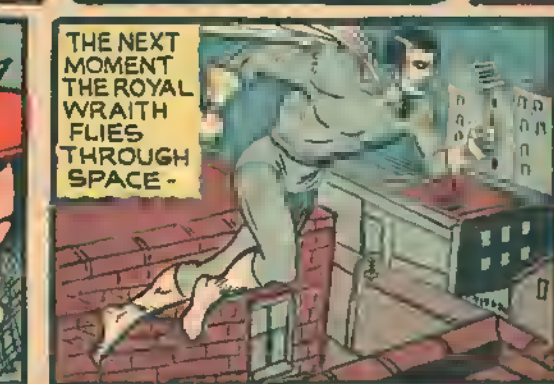
SUDDENLY -

I HAVE THE QUEEREST FEELING OF SOME IMPENDING ANGER FROM THE WORLD BEYOND. I'D BETTER SEE WHAT IT IS!



ER, AH - YOU'LL HAVE TO EXCUSE ME, PAT. I JUST REMEMBERED SOMETHING I MUST TAKE CARE OF!

YOU MAKE ME SICK - ALWAYS RUNNING OFF MYSTERIOUSLY!



THE NEXT MOMENT THE ROYAL WRAITH FLIES THROUGH SPACE -

MEANWHILE -
ROGERS HAS
REACHED
THE TOUCH-
STONE -

THIS IS THE STONE THE
SPIRIT INDICATED!

AS HE RUBS THE STONE, ROG-
ERS IS SUDDENLY WHIRLED
INTO COSMIC SPACE -

NOW TO RUB
IT AND SEE
WHAT HAPPENS!

HIS BODY IS TOSSED
ABOUT VIOLENTLY FOR
WHAT SEEMS LIKE AN
ENDLESS PERIOD OF
TIME -

UNTIL -
GREAT HEAVENS!
WHAT A SENSATION -
MY SENSES
ARE STILL
REELING!


MEANWHILE -
STRANGE... I'M BEING
GUIDED TO THE OLD
ROGERS CASTLE!

MR JUSTICE REACHES THE CASTLE...

I WONDER
WHAT SUPER-
NATURAL
FORCE IS
INHABITING
THIS PLACE!


AS MR JUSTICE DESCENDS
HE SEES SO, IT'S YOU, ROG-
ERS - NO WONDER
THE FEELING OF
DANGER WAS
SO CLOSE!

YES, I'VE COME
BACK TO DESTROY
YOU - THIS TIME
I CAN-
NOT FAIL!

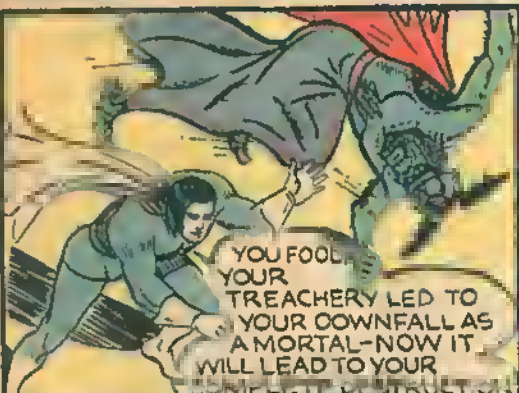


I HAVE SENT ONE OF MY
DESCENDANTS INTO THE
PAST TO DESTROY YOUR
EARTHLY BODY!

I'LL STOP HIM
BEFORE IT'S TOO
LATE!




I'LL KEEP YOU
HERE UNTIL
HE HAS COMPLET-
ED HIS TASK!



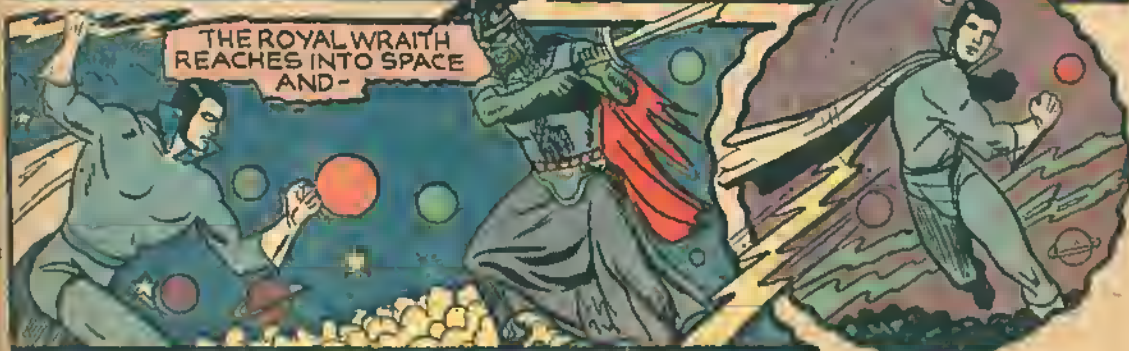
YOU FOOL,
YOUR
TREACHERY LED TO
YOUR DOWNFALL AS
A MORTAL-NOW IT
WILL LEAD TO YOUR
COMPLETE DESTRUCTION!



THEIR TITANIC STRUGGLE
CARRIES THEM FURTHER AND
FURTHER INTO
STELLAR SPACE-

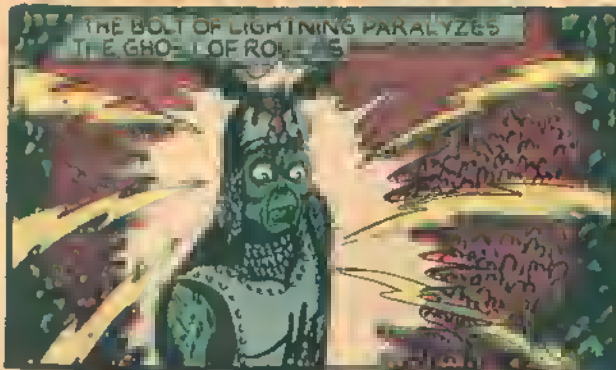


AS THE TWO SPIRIT BEINGS
COME TOGETHER
IN FIERCE
COMBAT-

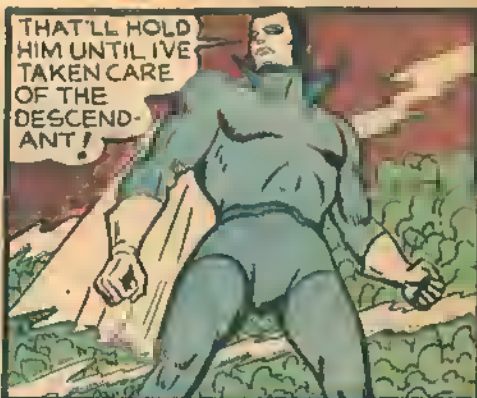


THE ROYAL WRAITH
REACHES INTO SPACE
AND-

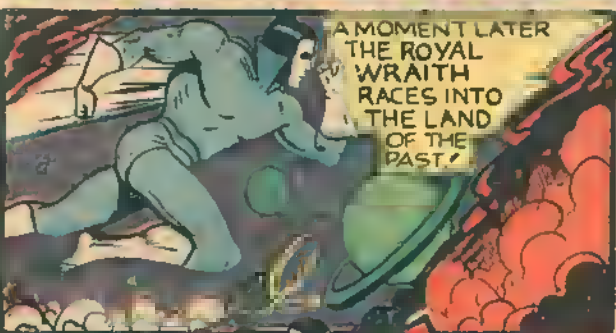
THE BOLT OF LIGHTNING PARALYZES
THE GHOST OF ROGER



THAT'LL HOLD
HIM UNTIL I'VE
TAKEN CARE
OF THE
DESCEND-
ANT!



A MOMENT LATER
THE ROYAL
WRAITH
RACES INTO
THE LAND
OF THE
PAST!



AND RACES TOWARD
THE CRYPT WHERE
HIS EARTHLY FORM
IS BURIED



MEANWHILE THE MORTAL ROGERS
HAS REACHED THE BURIAL PLACE

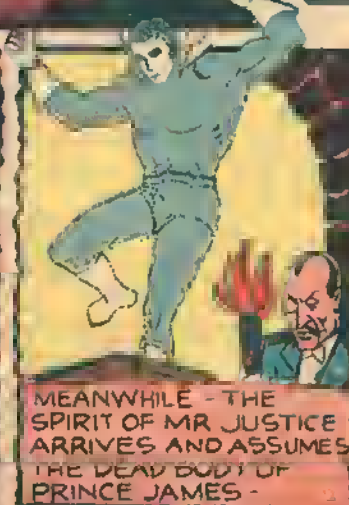


NOW,
TO FIND
THE RIGHT
BODY!

THIS
IS THE
ONE!



MEANWHILE - THE
SPIRIT OF MR JUSTICE
ARRIVES AND ASSUMES
THE DEAD BODY OF
PRINCE JAMES -



AND SUDDENLY -
WHAT'S THIS? IT'S
MOVING! IT CAN'T
BE ALIVE!



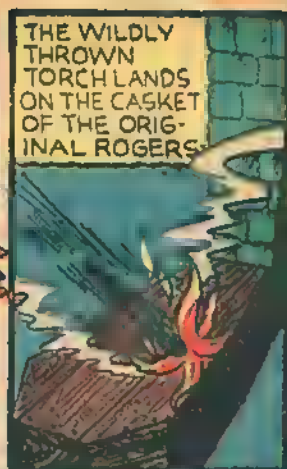


MY EYES MUST BE
PLAYING TRICKS ON
ME!

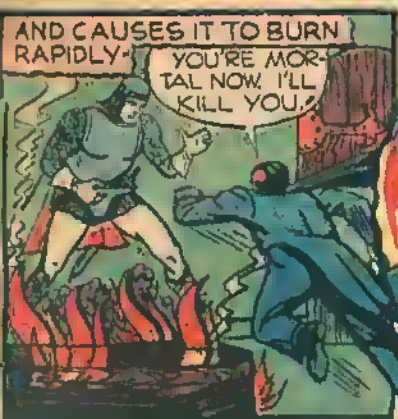
NOBODY'S
FOOLING YOU
I AM PRINCE
JAMES!



I MUST BE GOING MAD!
KEEP AWAY
FROM
ME!



THE WILDLY
THROWN
TORCH LANDS
ON THE CASKET
OF THE ORIG-
INAL ROGERS!

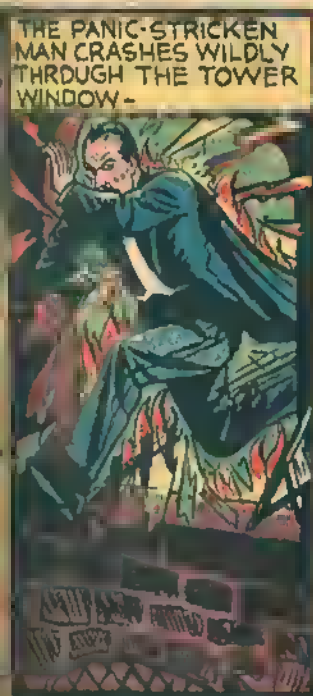


AND CAUSES IT TO BURN
RAPIDLY-

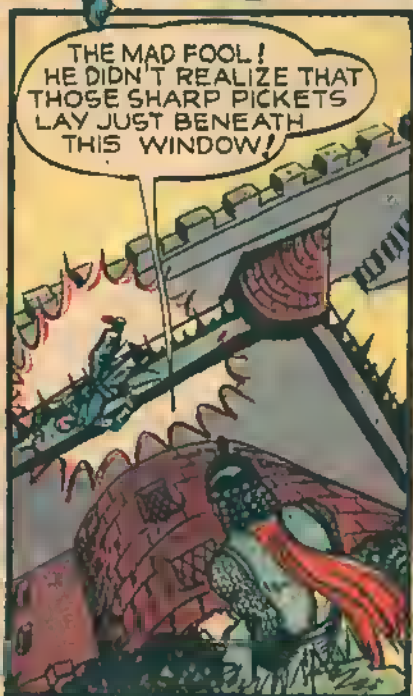
YOU'RE MOR-
TAL NOW, I'LL
KILL YOU!



I'M GETTING
OUT OF HERE!
I DON'T WANT
TO BE BURNED
ALIVE!



THE PANIC-STRICKEN
MAN CRASHES WILDLY
THROUGH THE TOWER
WINDOW-



THE MAD FOOL!
HE DIDN'T REALIZE THAT
THOSE SHARP PICKETS
LAY JUST BENEATH
THIS WINDOW!



WELL,
THERE
GOES THE
CASTLE
AND WITH IT
THE LAST OF
THE ROGERS!

MEANWHILE-AS HIS MORTAL BODY BURNS, THE SPIRIT OF ROGERS DISINTEGRATES AND DISAPPEARS INTO NOTHINGNESS-



BACK TO MR. JUSTICE WHO HAS RESUMED HIS SPIRIT FORM-

NOW, TO PUT THIS BODY WHERE IT BELONGS!



IT WILL BE SAFE FROM HARM HERE IN MY FAMILY RESTING PLACE!



I'VE STILL GOT A JOB TO DO HERE - I MUST DESTROY THAT TOUCHSTONE!



NOW, NO ONE WILL EVER AGAIN BE ALLOWED TO DISTURB THE REALM OF THE PAST!



A MOMENT LATER THE ROYAL WRAITH RACES BACK INTO THE PRESENT



THEN THE SPIRIT ONCE MORE SPEEDS HOMEWARD-



ARRIVING HE AGAIN ASSUMES HIS MORTAL FORM-



SOON AFTER-

WELL, PAT, ALL READY TO CONTINUE OUR WALK?

NO THANKS - I HAVE TOO MANY IMPORTANT THINGS TO DO!



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